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Grachev Pessimistic on CIS Joint Armed Forces

LD0404180294 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy in Russian 1500 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] At present Pavel Grachev, Russian defense minister, does not see prospects for setting up joint armed forces for the Commonwealth republics. According to the minister, such forces can be set up only if CIS states form a closer political and economic union. In addition, Defense Minister Pavel Grachev had a meeting with Butrus Butrus-Ghali, UN secretary-general, today and said after the meeting that Russian peace-keeping forces would be able to carry out their operations in the CIS under the UN aegis. According to the minister, Butrus-Ghali supported this position wholeheartedly.

Russian, Defense Ministries on CIS Peacekeeping

PM0504091594 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Apr 94 p 3

["Joint Statement by the Russian Foreign Ministry and Defense Ministry": "Actions, Not Declarations Are What Is Needed"]

[Text] Of late, statements by certain politicians in foreign countries, items in the foreign mass media, and debates at international forums have sometimes voiced the idea of the "ambiguity" of Russia's peacekeeping mission on the territory of a number of CIS countries. Talk of Russia's "neoimperial ambitions" is becoming increasingly current. No matter what form these recriminations take, they invariably boil down to one thing: Russia is allegedly stepping up strong-arm pressure on its neighbors and demanding the right to "interfere" in their internal affairs on the pretext of peacekeeping activity—virtually bypassing universally recognized norms of international law, moreover. At the same time what is being perpetrated is not just an arbitrary interpretation of the facts but also the impudent or unwitting distortion of these facts.

The idea that Russia is allegedly "unilaterally" sending troops to unstable regions is the main argument used by people who take that kind of view of Russian peacekeeping in neighboring states. It is thence concluded that involving the world community in peacekeeping efforts to settle conflicts on the territory of the former USSR should consist in supervising Russia's actions.

We do not want to exaggerate the importance of this line being taken in certain political and social circles in West and East. Most countries' leaders demonstrate a responsible and sober approach, acknowledging Russia's positive role in curbing and settling crisis situations. Russia would like to see a more lasting, true partnership founded on equality, mutual trust, and respect established in the field of peacekeeping in the CIS countries in actual fact and not just in declarations of intent.

To this end we consider it timely to draw attention to a number of fundamental political and international-legal elements of Russia's involvement in peacekeeping activity in the CIS.

Russia's actions are designed only to stop armed clashes in a number of the new independent states, stabilize the situation there, and create conditions for a long-term lasting settlement. We take pride in the fact that, thanks to the presence of Russian peacekeeping forces in "hot zones," far more numerous civilian casualties have been avoided.

Our efforts are being mounted against the backdrop of the dramatically complex economic and financial situation in Russia itself, diverting considerable funds into peacekeeping: In the last 10 months alone this expenditure has totaled around 26 billion rubles (notwithstanding the difficulty of precise calculations and our peacekeepers' inadequate supplies compared with the UN "blue helmets"). There are over 15,000 Russian servicemen in hot spots on the territory of the CIS states.

Peacekeeping in the Commonwealth countries is not a "Russian initiative." In all cases without exception our actions are being conducted at the request and with the consent of the appropriate states and warring parties. Peacekeeping contingents are sent on the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements that accord with the norms of international law. This fully squares with the provisions of the UN Charter, whereby the possibility of resolving questions of peacekeeping on the basis of agreements between the interested states is not only entertained but even welcomed (Article 52 of the UN Charter). The only exception being coercive operations, which must be carried out under the leadership of the Security Council in accordance with Article 53 of the UN Charter. However, all the current peacekeeping operations on the territory of what was the USSR do not fall under that provision since they are not coercive but are being conducted with the consent of all the warring parties. The United Nations and the CSCE are regularly briefed on the progress of all these operations.

Russia consistently advocates very extensive UN and CSCE involvement in settling conflicts in the CIS countries. But there is no need for any UN and CSCE "permission" for the operations involving Russia and its neighbors that are being carried out on the basis of the above criteria. These operations are being conducted on the basis of the sovereign rights of the corresponding states as enshrined in the UN Charter and need no further legitimization. The fact that cooperation with the United Nations and the CSCE and their active, thorough support for the peacekeeping efforts made by Russia and its neighbors could really help to settle the conflicts more effectively and rapidly is another matter. We also advocate this by asking the United Nations and the CSCE to cooperate with the peacekeeping operations in the CIS countries in various forms, including by sending missions, observers, advisers, etc. Russia will also be willing to take part in UN and CSCE peacekeeping operations

on the territory of the former USSR if the parties to a particular conflict ask these organizations to set up such operations there and if it is decided to carry them out.

However it must be stated that reaction to the CIS countries' repeated appeals to the United Nations and CSCE for support (in particular with regard to the conflicts in Abkhazia and Tajikistan) is being dragged out. Therefore agreements between Russia and its neighbors, along with mechanisms set up within the CIS framework, remain the main peacekeeping instruments in the region. It is thanks to them that the tasks of maintaining international peace and security, an inalienable part of ensuring global stability, are now being resolved. The world community should recognize that objective reality and move on to to closer cooperation with Russia and its neighbors. That would incidentally help all "doubters" to see the "transparency" of these peacekeeping operations and the unfounded nature of the suspicions on this score.

In firmly pursuing a policy of ensuring peace and stability around its borders and meeting its pledges under agreements with the corresponding countries and within the CIS framework, Russia is not pitting its efforts against anyone whatsoever. We do not demand a special status for ourselves or an exclusive role, but nor are we evading our responsibility for the situation in what is a key region for Russia. We are prepared for constructive cooperation on these matters with the United Nations, the CSCE, and the world community as a whole.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 5 Apr 94

LD0504063294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0505 GMT 5 Apr 94

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on the visit of U.N. Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali to Moscow:

"The U.N. chief's three main meetings with President Boris Yeltsin, Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and Defence Minister Pavel Grachev were notable for an abundance of gratitude lavished by the sides on each other. The deservedness of such lavishness cannot conceal a certain difference in their points of view on approach to peacemaking problems".

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA quotes Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev as saying that "Articles 51-55 of the U.N. Charter, in particular, allow peacemaking activities on a regional scale. If the conflict in Rwanda is being settled by the United Nations organisation, the one in Haiti by the Organisation of American States, why not legalise the activities of a collective peacemaking force of the countries that are parties to a collective security treaty within the CIS framework?".

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI quotes the U.N. secretary-general as saying that "Russia is a great power and a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council. We hope that it will contribute to enhancing the role of the United Nations in the international arena subsequently as well".

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI reports that a white paper about the October 1993 events in Moscow is being prepared for publication. It is a question of selecting materials about both the events on the October days proper and the preceding developments—the meeting of the Supreme Soviet (parliament), the last congress, official decrees...

"Work on a documentary version of the book has been almost completed. This version will be put out in a small print run intended mainly for scientific workers.

"A documentary-and-publicistic version of the book is still in the works and will have a much larger print run".

PRAVDA carries an interview with former Russian Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy who makes an estimate of the October 1993 events. In response to correspondents' questions, Rutskoy made it clear once again that he does not intend to quit the political stage.

"To quit politics now would mean to betray first of all those people who believe me," Rutskoy emphasised.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA runs an interview with Federal Council Speaker Vladimir Shumeyko.

Touching upon the possibility of creating a community or a union on confederative principles on the territory of the former Soviet Union, Shumeyko pointed out as follows: "I consider it possible to establish an integrated community of states, which can be done on the basis of the existing CIS institutions, not to recreate the Soviet Union as it was prior to perestroyka."

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA carries an interview with director of the Federal Counterintelligence Service Sergey Stepashin. Touching upon the outflow of scientific ideas, high technologies and advanced systems of armaments and military hardware from Russia, Stepashin said "the country in the near future may lose its lead in the development of fundamental and applied research, lose many scientific schools and highly skilled personnel, and suffer considerable and, in point of fact, irreplaceable material damage."

"Calculations done by Russian Science Ministry according to U.N. methods indicate that if a specialist emigrates, the country loses about 300,000 U.S. dollars. Russia may suffer a potential damage of about 20,000 million dollars every year as a result of emigration."

TRUD frontpages an article about the supply of substandard and quite often tainted foodstuffs to the Russian market from abroad.

"In the first quarter of the year alone, the state trade inspectorate rejected almost 60 percent of examined meat products and sausages, more than 70 percent of alcoholic drinks, and over 40 percent of tea and coffee.

"The inspectorate checked and found unfit for consumption all imported dairy products that were on sale in Tula and Orenburg regions, Maritime territory, and the republics of Mariy-El and Tatarstan".

Russia To Sign Partnership for Peace 21 Apr

AU0504114794 Paris AFP in English 1131 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Excerpt] Moscow, April 5 (AFP)—Russia will join the NATO "Partnership for Peace" program on April 21 when it will also present its own ideas on how the scheme should work, Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaly Churkin announced here Tuesday [5 April].

Speaking at a foreign ministry briefing, Churkin said Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev would travel to NATO headquarters in Brussels where he would sign the "basic documents" for membership in the partnership plan.

"He will take to Brussels presentation documents containing proposals from Russia for the process" of implementing the partnership and on how Russia envisages its role in the program, Churkin stated.

He gave no further details on the Russian proposals. [passage omitted]

Defense, Foreign Ministries Support NATO Partnership

LD0404110594 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0928 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Vadim Byrkin and Yuriy Tyssovskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Apr—"The positions of Russia's Defense Ministry and Foreign Ministry with regard to joining NATO's Partnership for Peace program coincide," the Russian defense minister told an ITAR-TASS correspondent today. Pavel Grachev met a small number of Russian and foreign journalists after his talks with UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali.

The minister revealed that he and Andrey Kozyrev had jointly sent appropriate documents to the Russian president, who had expressed support for this position in conversations. "We hope that Andrey Kozyrev will sign an outline agreement on Russian entry in the Partnership for Peace program in Brussels in April," Pavel Grachev said. "On the whole, I see no disagreements on this issue in the government and in the presidential structures."

Zhirinovskiy 'Unequivocally' Opposes PFP

LD0104184794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1636 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] The Liberal Democratic Party of Russia and its faction in the parliament unequivocally oppose Russia signing NATO's Partnership for Peace [PFP] program, the party's leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy declared during his meeting with the adviser of the Canadian Embassy to Moscow Ferry de Kerckhove van der Varent [name as received] on Friday [1 April], held at the request of the diplomat, reported the press service of the LDPR faction in the State Duma.

The Canadian diplomat himself showed interest in Zhirinovskiy's attitude towards this problem and enumerated his own arguments in favor of signing the document, reports the press service. Zhirinovskiy expressed the opinion that joining the Partnership for Peace program would mean Russia's involvement in NATO in a concealed form, pursuing NATO's interests, and consequently the interests of the United States.

Zhirinovskiy Opposed to Joining Council of Europe

LD0404181394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1800 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Helsinki April 4 TASS—Russia's Vladimir Zhirinovskiy criticised on Monday the idea of his country joining the Council of Europe.

"We do not need your Council of Europe. We do not ask for it. On the contrary, it is you who need us", leader of a powerful faction in the russian parliament told reporters on arrival in Helsinki. A delegation of Russian lawmakers is due to take part in a parliamentary seminar here on prospects of the Russian membership of the Council of Europe.

Zhirinovskiy stressed that his party (ultra-nationalist party misleadingly called Liberal-Democratic) "has nothing against Finland". He complained that Finnish journalists lack true information, apparently referring to local media reports repeatedly calling him an advocate of Finland's re-joining Russia.

Tokyo Unable To Confirm Claims on DPRK Nuke Program

PM0504140794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Apr 94 First Edition p 6

[ITAR-TASS report from the "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow" column: "Does North Korea Have a Specific Program?"]

[Text] Tokyo is unable to confirm the statement by U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry that the DPRK has started implementing a program which will enable it to produce at least 12 nuclear devices a year within two to three years. An ITAR-TASS correspondent was informed of this by a senior Japanese Foreign Ministry official.

He observed that he did not know the reasons which enabled the U.S. secretary of defense to make such a statement during an interview with a U.S. television company on Sunday [3 April].

DPRK Rejects Russia's 'Multilateral Approach' Proposal

PM0404182794 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Apr 94 p 3

[Report from ITAR-TASS/EFIR-DAYDZHEST column under general heading "In Brief"]

[Text] 2 Apr—The DPRK has to all intents and purposes made a negative assessment of Russia's proposal to apply a multilateral approach in discussing the North Korean nuclear problem. A representative of the Republic's Foreign Ministry, answering questions today from a correspondent of KCNA, the official North Korean news agency, pointed out that "we make a positive assessment of the fact that Russia opposes sanctions and pressure and intends to find a solution to the problem around the political consultation table. But we are concerned that Russia's proposal for multilateral negotiations may complicate the problem."

'Secret Report' Cited on Russian Nuclear Weapons Sales

JN0504091994

[Editorial Report] Paris AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic on 1 April publishes on pages 34-36 an approximately 3,500-word report from Moscow by Pavel Davidov on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in the breakaway republics of the former Soviet Union and on sales of these weapons and sophisticated technology to Third World and other nations. The report cites dangers threatening many nations as a result of the Soviet Republics' lack of control over their nuclear arsenal. It says the Russian intelligence and security agencies are incapable of protecting the world from the risks inherent in the proliferation of nuclear bombs, radioactive agents, missiles, and other weapons of mass destruction.

The magazine publishes highlights of a "secret report" submitted by the Russian Counterespionage Service to Russian President Boris Yeltsin "a few days ago." This classified report contains a "clear warning that it is impossible to prevent thefts, smuggling, and secret trade, which is on the rise in military plants and sensitive laboratories. The report also points out that the states that broke away from the Soviet Union are also unable to protect the dangerous installations they have inherited. These states are selling the installations to dealers who come from Iran, Pakistan, Iraq, and other nations, or to trade firms that specialize in gunrunning. Sometimes, plants are being sold, along with all their equipment, weapons, and experts. The report gives evidence that 900 thefts from military and nuclear plants and 700 thefts of secret technology were reported only during the second half of 1993, including nuclear weapons to Iran and Pakistan."

The report says that as a result of the unplanned reorganization of security agencies in Russia and the defects in the new structure of Russian security, Russian military institutions and plants, science institutes, and important laboratories have been deprived of the protection of the official security agencies. No special security agencies were established to protect those installations due to "lack of funds and the general deterioration in the country."

The report adds that what makes the situation even more difficult is that the newly independent republics do not know how to handle or get rid of the military and other plants on their territory. The leaders of those republics think the best way to remove these weapons and plants is by selling them to the highest bidder.

The report cites examples of the selling of weapons of mass destruction to other nations. In November 1993, a ship carrying 40 families of Russian refugees arrived in the city of Isterkhan from Turkmenistan, including six families whose parents had worked in a secret workshop of the ammunition depot that belongs to the former Soviet war naval fleet. In this workshop, nuclear containers for torpedoes and sea mines were tested and most of them were sent to the Black Sea fleet. Following the disintegration of the Soviet Union, Turkmenistan decided that it did not need the containers, so the entire depot was sold within a year. The buyers were Iranians and Pakistanis. Also, a powder plant was sold in Uzbekistan when this republic saw that it no longer needs the plant and could not turn it into civilian production. The report adds: "We can give dozens of examples of this kind. The weapons of mass destruction spread all over the Third World from all the republics of the former Soviet Union because of the lack of control and protection exercised in the past by the KGB. These weapons can easily fall into the hands of irresponsible adventurers."

The report gives another example of the disappearance of a secret laboratory for scientific research in the area of chemical weapons and laser technology in a city in Kyrgyzstan. The buyer is unknown.

The report goes on to say that none of the republics of the former Soviet Union exercises state control over nuclear security, except for Russia which has a government committee to monitor nuclear activities. Even this committee has limited tasks.

The report devotes a chapter to the future of scientists, specialists in military industries, and nuclear experts. It discloses that "more than a third of the scientists and specialists in the nuclear field and highly sophisticated technology, who total 3,000 people that used to work in the Soviet Union, have left the country and now work at major scientific institutions in the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, and Sweden."

PRC Stance on DPRK Nuclear Capability Eyed

PM0404135194 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 94 p 3

[Vladimir Skosyrev report: "Chinese Diplomacy Frustrates Approval of Tough Resolution Against Pyongyang"]

[Text] Beijing—The statement on North Korea that the UN Security Council approved 1 April was the result of a compromise between the United States and its Western supporters on the one hand and China on the other. Thus the PRC once again demonstrated that the West will not succeed in forcing Pyongyang to open up its nuclear installations for inspection without its consent.

What is more, the New York debate enabled Beijing to display the consistency of its policy. It has after all from the very start of the crisis claimed that methods of pressure and diktat are unacceptable.

But whereas Chinese diplomacy can enter a point in its favor, military strategists hardly have cause to be delighted. As long as the nature of the DPRK's nuclear program remains a secret and as long as Pyongyang continues to violate its nonproliferation treaty pledges there is still a threat to the security of all Korea's neighbors, including China.

Why then are they doggedly opposing attempts to include even a reference to sanctions in the UN ruling? Are they afraid of an unpredictable response from Kim Il-song and his offspring if things reach the point of an economic blockade against North Korea? That is unlikely. This state's leaders are not crazy, and they will not risk their own annihilation by unleashing another war on the peninsula.

Some foreign observers in Beijing are saying that the Chinese leadership is not united on the North Korean problem. Army representatives are alarmed not just by the nuclear ambitions of China's former ally in the socialist camp, they are afraid that Tokyo may follow Pyongyang with nuclear rearmament.

However, the army establishment is opposed by party ideologists, who are convinced that economic sanctions must not be allowed. They would after all ultimately bring about the collapse of another communist regime, which would be bound to affect Chinese Communists' morale. Moreover, the success of sanctions against the DPRK would create a bad international precedent. We would remind you that the United States is threatening economic repression against China itself in an effort to secure concessions from it in the human rights field.

There is also another viewpoint: Chinese intelligence is fairly well informed on the progress of nuclear research in the DPRK and believes that this country is incapable of manufacturing a bomb on its own. That is why Beijing is not inclined to overdramatize the conflict.

Agreement With Washington on Uranium Sales

LD0404154994 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 0425 GMT 4 Apr 94

[From the "Biznews" program]

[Text] Russia can sell 3,000 tonnes of natural uranium per year on the American market for the next two years. This amendment to the anti-dumping agreement for uranium has been adopted by Moscow and Washington. However, the present amendment has a number of restrictions. In particular, the Russian side has the right to sell only 50 percent of the volume indicated in a contract. The remainder of the supplies are carried out by American producers. In addition to this, Russia can sell 500 tonnes of natural uranium on the U.S. market per year at a price of not less than $13 a pound. At present the price of natural uranium on the American market is approximately $10.

Weapons-Grade Uranium Shipped to Ukraine

LD0404180794 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Viktor Mikhaylov, the Russian minister for atomic energy, has said that a train carrying 25 tonnes of highly-enriched uranium obtained through dismantling nuclear warheads will arrive in Ukraine from Russia in the next few days. He said in an interview with INTERFAX on Monday that it is planned to send another train to Ukraine in April with nuclear power plant fuel. Altogether Russia is to supply 100 tonnes of highly-enriched uranium to Ukraine as a compensation for the removal of nuclear warheads from that republic.

Yeltsin, Butrus-Ghali Hold 'Constructive' Discussions

LD0404134594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1258 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Moscow 4 April, TASS—President Yeltsin received U.N. Secretary-General Butrus Butrus-Ghali in the Kremlin today. They had a constructive and businesslike discussion of a wide range of problems dealing with world politics, and tasks in the sphere of consolidating world security.

Butrus-Ghali told Yeltsin about the steps taken for the purpose of making the work of the U.N. more quick and efficient. The Russian side supported the strengthening of the U.N. and the taking of measures for improving its work, so that it will be able to tackle topical problems of the 21st century. Yeltsin stressed Russia's interest in cooperation with the U.N. in connection with the advance of the Russian reform. The U.N. secretary-general said this was in line with his intentions and actions.

They discussed in detail problems of peace-keeping activities and humanitarian diplomacy. The sides were unanimous in their opinion that those spheres of the

U.N. activities, which are becoming central in world politics, should be given greater attention and considerable resources.

Special attention was devoted to conflict situations on the CIS territory and the observance of human rights in the former USSR republics. Yeltsin stressed Russia's openness to cooperation with the U.N. for purposes of ensuring peace in the hotbeds of tension, situated on the CIS territory. Butrus-Ghali praised Russia's peacekeeping role and reiterated the U.N. intention to actively promote the attaining of a durable political solution to the crises, specifically in Georgia and Tajikistan.

Butrus-Ghali asked President Yeltsin to attend a summit meeting on social problems, due to take place in March 1995, and to address the U.N. General Assembly within the framework of preparations for the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Organisation. The invitations were accepted, ITAR-TASS learned from the press service of the Russian president.

Butrus-Ghali Holds News Conference

LD0404172694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1659 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Babkin and Aleksandr Krylovich]

[Text] Moscow 4 April, TASS—Visiting U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali highly appreciated the level of interaction between the Russian diplomacy and the world body in solving problems of maintaining peace in the territory of the former Soviet Union and peacekeeping operations in other areas of the world. Ghali was addressing a press conference in the Russian Foreign Ministry press centre today after his meetings with Russian officials.

According to the secretary general, Russia is one of the founders of the U.N.O., a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council and a super power. That is why the U.N. is interested in that Russia should play an important role in international affairs. Ghali assured that the U.N. will provide maximum possible help to Russia to overcome temporary transitional difficulties. He expressed the hope that this transitional period will be quite short.

The U.N. secretary general recalled that the international organisation is going to celebrate its 50th anniversary next year. In this context he spoke about intentions of the U.N. to organise three international conferences. A summit meeting on questions of social development will be held in Copenhagen in March 1995, a conference on problems of population and family planning will be organised in Cairo in September, and finally, the third international conference on problems of women will be held in Beijing, he said. Butrus-Ghali said that he had received support from the Russian leadership in organising U.N. golden jubilee celebrations.

UN Secretary General Departs

LD0504095294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0937 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Moscow 5 April, TASS—U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali has described his talks with Russian leaders as constructive. Upon winding up his five-day official visit, he left here for Minsk on Tuesday. At the airport he was seen off by Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev.

In a brief ITAR-TASS interview before departure, the U.N. chief said he postively assesses the results of the visit. Russia renders effective assistance to U.N. activities to keep peace and settle crisis situations, he emphasised.

Czech Republic's Klaus Arrives for Economic Talks

LD0404131894 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1221 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Moscow 4 April, TASS—Prime Minister of the Czech Republic Vaclav Klaus arrived in Moscow on Monday to discuss trade relations and the problem of Soviet debt inherited by Russia.

He is to meet his Russian counterpart Viktor Chernomyrdin. An agreement on promoting investments and a protocol on shipments of goods for 1994 are expected to be signed.

Later in the day Klaus will address students and professors of the Financial Academy on Czech experience of market reforms.

Klaus: 'No Painful Issues' in Relations

LD0404153194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1355 GMT 4 Apr 94

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature: by Dmitriy Voskoboinikov, Igor Porshnev, and Vitaliy Trubetskoy]

[text] Prime Minister of Czechia Vaclav Klaus is at the start of a two-day visit to Moscow, the first such visit to Russia by a Czech head of government. The two countries are expected to sign an agreement on investment protection and possibly, a protocol on this year's bilateral trade, a senior Russian diplomat told INTERFAX on Monday.

He said the two papers were almost ready for signing though some technicalities remained in the second draft but "these will have been resolved."

The diplomat spoke of no painful issues in relations between Moscow and Prague. He described them as good though admitting to some problems as well including the

former Soviet Union's debt to ex-Czechoslovakia. "The trouble is both of them do no longer exist, but this is not to say the problem is insoluble," he said.

Klaus Seeks Resolution of Debt Problems

LD0404152994 Prague Radiozurnal Radio Network in Czech 1400 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] As you already know, Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus started his visit to Russia today. He was welcomed at Vnukovo-2 airport in Moscow by representatives of the Russian Government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation. Our special correspondent David Stahlavsky has phoned in:

[Stahlavsky] The Czech prime minister is accompanied in Moscow by representatives of the Ministries of Industry and Trade, Finance, and Foreign Affairs. This indicates the main aim of Vaclav Klaus' visit: namely, to solve the current economic problems in Czech-Russian relations, no doubt burdened by the state debt of Moscow to the value of $3 billion and a direct customer debt of $185 million. In view of its problematic solvency, Moscow is offering, as a relatively viable solution, deliveries of Russian goods to our market. The Czech condition, however,is concluding a clear and realistic agreement.

According to Deputy Finance Minister Vladimir Rudlovcak, who is accompanying Vaclav Klaus, the principles of this agreement should be assessed during the current visit of the Czech prime minister to Moscow.

Another of the visit's priorities is an agreement on problem-free deliveries of oil and gas for a longer period than hitherto; that is, for longer than one year. We are also considering possible capitalization of our claims, but thorough research of the enterprises offered is necessary for that. Finally, there will also be talks about the property of the former Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

Addresses Finance Academy

LD0404184994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1808 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] The Czech Republic's Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus has said that the former economic cooperation between his country and Russia has become a thing of the past.

Addressing students of the Russian Government's Finance Academy in Moscow on Monday, he voiced doubt that his country would act toward any East European economic integration. "We favor a free market with our partners in Poland and Hungary, and in this sense are open to East and West alike."

He reported that at a meeting with Russia's Premier Chernomyrdin on Tuesday he would sign a treaty on mutual investment guarantees and one of the topics for discussion with Chernomyrdin will be Russia's debt to Czech enterprises.

In his speech before academy students, Klaus focused on the consistence with which his cabinet had proceeded from the administrative command economy to a market-oriented economy. As a result, the Czech kron has for 40 months now been a model of stability not only for the post-communist states but also for some western democracies. He pointed out that the Czech Republic, unlike neighboring East European countries, is trying hard to halt relentless western investment.

He claimed that the transition to a market economy should start primarily with macroeconomic transformations and a deficit-free budget. "There must be a man who can say "no" without fear of attack from the opposition and newspaper lampooning but who should be in close touch with society through the press," Klaus said. He described as a delusion the desire to attract western capital by all kinds of privileges. There is nothing more important for a government in a transitional period, according to Klaus, than to pave the way for economic recovery by curbing inflation, liberalizing prices and foreign trade, and privatizing property as soon as possible.

Klaus is paying an official visit to Russia.

Yeltsin Receives Klaus

LD0504091094 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0741 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Moscow 5 April, ITAR-TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin received Czech Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus in the Kremlin on Tuesday morning.

Welcoming the Czech premier, Boris Yeltsin noted that partnership between Russia and the Czech Republic is based on the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries signed in Prague last August.

According to the Russian president, the two countries continue to pursue their policy of cooperation despite certain difficulties in bilateral relations.

Chernomyrdin, Klaus Sign Accords

LD0504111694 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1108 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—The intergovernmental talks between the Russian and Czech delegations led by the heads of two governments, Viktor Chernomyrdin and Vaclav Klaus, ended here today with the signing of an agreement on encouragement and mutual protection of investments and a protocol on mutual supplies of goods in 1994.

After the ceremony of signing these documents, Viktor Chernomyrdin told journalists that during the talks "we

were very much interested in the reforms which are being conducted in the Czech Republic, their mechanism and results. We are also following a path of reform, and I think there are many things we in Russia can adopt from the Czech experience".

The Russian prime-minister said economic relations between the two countries are now taking shape on a new, market basis and stressed that it is necessary to build up trade and economic ties.

Chernomyrdin expressed satisfaction with the talks and said that the two delegations also considered the rescheduling of the Russian debt to the Czech Republic, which Russia has "inherited" from the former USSR.

"We identified the mechanism of debt repayment and instructed experts to prepare the required document for signing before May 30," Chernomyrdin said.

Vaclav Klaus said he was pleased with his talks with the Russian prime-minister and particularly stressed the solution to the problem of the Russian indebtedness. He said the new document, which the two countries are planning to sign soon, will contain a specific time-table of the debt repayment.

Klaus said that Chernomyrdin and himself also discussed Czech investments in the Russian economy.

Stepashin Warns Former Allies Spying on Russia

LD0504125194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1124 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Anatoliy Yurkin]

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—Former socialist countries and former Soviet republics are beginning to spy on Russia, director of the Federal Counterintelligence Service Sergey Stepashin warned on Tuesday.

"The danger of spying has considerably increased today and can inflict major damage to independence, defence capability, scientific, technical and economic potential of the country", he told a conference on "Security of Individual, Society, State and Russian Special Services".

The director added that secret services of former Warsaw treaty member states and of former Soviet republics also get involved in the spying activities.

"This tendency calls to strictly determine the notion of the threat to Russian security", Stepashin said and added that counterintelligence bodies should be strengthened.

"A strong democratic Russia should have strong security bodies. As any other state, it has the right to resort to adequate measures to protect its national interests", he said.

Stepashin also voiced concern over increased attempts of foreign special services to ensure access to commercial information.

Dwelling on anti-crime fight in the country, he warned that mafia is actively trying to penetrate into the bodies of power, also by intimidation and terror.

New concepts of ensuring the national security are necessary and the Russian security council is working on them, the director said.

Grachev Dubious Over Georgian-Abkhaz Peace Process

LD0404154194 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Russian Defense Minister Army General Pavel Grachev answered a question from our correspondent and gave his assessment of the Georgian-Abkhaz documents signed today.

[Begin Grachev recording] The fact that Georgia and Abkhazia have now signed inspires optimism, because the Georgian leadership has started acknowledging that the Abkhaz leadership does exist.

But, once again, one can sign as many documents as one wants, provided there is enough paper. But the important thing is practical implementation. I personally have occasionally acted as a peace-broker at the request of Armenia's and Azerbaijan's defense ministers, to settle the Karabakh problem. While they are at the negotiating table, everything looks fine: I bring them together, they kiss and shake hands, have lunch together—but when they get back to their countries, everything starts anew. I have tried three times, and I have told them not to expect me to do it the fourth time round. After all, I am not a peace-maker, I am a defense minister. [end recording]

Grachev Interviewed on Romania Visit

PM0504103194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Apr 94 p 3

[Interview with Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev in Bucharest by RIA NOVOSTI correspondent Vyacheslav Samoshkin specially for ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI; date of interview not stated: "Pavel Grachev: Romanian Partners' Position Has Changed"]

[Text] Bucharest—In late March Russian Federation Defense Minister Pavel Grachev headed a Russian military delegation in Romania on an official visit during which an agreement was signed on cooperation between the two countries' defense ministers. At the end of the visit he gave an exclusive interview to your RIA NOVOSTI correspondent.

[Samoshkin] Pavel Sergeyevich, are you pleased with the trip's results?

[Grachev] My very first talks with our Romanian partners dispelled doubts as to the expediency of our visit. They stressed that despite the stagnation in our relations over several years they are ready and will seek to develop

equal and mutually advantageous relations along military channels so that they can be as strong as at the time of the Warsaw Pact. At my meeting with Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu this thought was a leitmotif. At talks with prime minister Nicolae Vacaroiu and President Ion Iliescu I was fully convinced that Romania has now fundamentally revised its attitude toward Russia. I was frankly told that Romania will seek cooperation with Russia on all salients.

[Samoshkin] Romania officially sees the "partnership for peace" program as its first step toward integration into NATO structures. Russia has a rather different view of this program. In that case how can they really find a common language?

[Grachev] Yes, indeed, Romania was the first to accede to the "partnership for peace." But President Iliescu expressed an interesting position. Yes, he said, we are for the partnership on an equal basis with all states, including the NATO states. In his opinion partnership for security should be implemented by all countries, which fully accords with our approaches too. And he also stressed the idea that, yes, we are seeking to be integrated into NATO but simultaneously, all together, including Russia. He sees NATO's transformation from a military-political alliance to a political and peacekeeping one. President Iliescu puts [illegible] most partnership not in the military field but in [illegible] economic field, that is first economic partnership [illegible] eace and only then all its other aspects.

[Samoshkin] Abroad, including in Romania, the thesis of Russia's special role in NATO and in the "partnership for peace" has given rise to various interpretations. What do people have in mind here?

[Grachev] All East European countries view the concept of "partnership for peace" as an initial, transitional stage toward integration in the NATO system. That will happen gradually, as the military weapons we produce go out of commission, as new military cadres are trained—according to the NATO system—and, of course, as the countries emerge from the economic crisis to pay money for new weapons. Right now they are simply not ready for this integration. And this stage will last 8-10 years. Our special role is that we will never simply be integrated into NATO structures because our strategic missile forces and nuclear weapons on ships in the air force mean that we have a great army with powerful modern weapons. So that in contrast to other neighboring countries for us the "partnership for peace" is not a transitional stage.

[Samoshkin] Until recently Romania officially voiced itself in favor of the withdrawal of the 14th Russian Army from the Dniester region. How do you explain the fact that during your visit this question was not touched on in any way by the Romanian side?

[Grachev] I see in this a certain change in the approach toward our bilateral cooperation. Why have our relations declined? Because of the conflict situation in Moldova. You remember that I was criticized here when I said that arms deliveries were being sent from Romania to Moldova and the Romanians accused us of supporting the Dniester region people. On the basis of this conflict in Moldova our relations were frankly destroyed. But now the position of our Romanian partners has changed in that none of our interlocutors tried to link our relations with the situation in Moldova, in particular in the Dniester region. The implication is that they believe this is the problem of a third country, that is Moldova....

Yeltsin Sends Messages to Al-Asad, King Husayn

PM0504124994 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 94 p 3

[Elmar Guseynov report: "Last 15 Israeli Policemen Remain in Jericho To Hand Over City to Palestinian Security Forces. Russian Diplomats Deliver Special Messages from President Yeltsin to Damascus and Amman"]

[Excerpt] Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov and the Russian president's special representative Viktor Posuvalyuk brought Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad a personal message from Boris Yeltsin. The Russian diplomats are keeping the text of the message a secret.

The outcome of the Palestinians' peace talks with Israel depends on Syria' stance. It was owing to Syria's and Jordan's refusal to continue the talks following the Hebron massacre that the Arab-Israeli negotiating process ran into delay five weeks ago.

What is more, it has not proved possible to organize bilateral talks between Syria and the Jewish state, prompting Russia—as one of the two sponsors of the Near East settlement process—to pay particular attention to President Hafiz al-Asad.

Following his visit to Damascus I. Ivanov returned to Moscow while V. Posuvalyuk went on to Amman to hand the King of Jordan a message from Yeltsin.

The high-ranking Foreign Ministry staffers' visit to Damascus and Amman obviously marks a fresh attempt by Russian diplomacy to preserve its role as one of the patrons of the Near East negotiating process after Moscow's recent peace initiative failed to meet with support from the parties to this process.

The boost to Russian foreign policy in the region is occurring amid the resumption of the peace process. Talks between the Israelis and the PLO have continued in Cairo. [passage omitted]

Iraqi Official Confers With Deputy Foreign Minister

JN0504110294 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] Moscow, 5 Apr (INA)—'Abd-al-Ghani 'Abd-al-Ghafur, member of the Iraq Command of the Arab

Socialist Ba'th Party, met here today with Mr. Boris Kolokolov, deputy foreign minister of the Russian Federation.

They discussed Iraq's fulfillment of all the obligations specified by UN Security Council resolutions and the need for the council to fulfill its obligations as stipulated by Paragraph 22 of Resolution 687 and to lift the economic sanctions.

'Abd-al-Ghafur noted the positive development in the attitudes of some permanent members of the Security Council, including Russia. He called for the Russian stand to be developed to a more effective footing so as to end the blockade and the hardships endured by the Iraqi people.

The Russian minister told 'Abd-al-Ghafur his country was eager to develop its ties with Iraq in the best interests of the two friendly nations.

The session was attended by Mr. 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hashimi, director of the Ba'th Party's Foreign Relations Bureau, and Russian Foreign Ministry officials.

Special Presidential Envoy Meets Israeli Premier

LD0404202294 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2008 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Aleksandr Zhudro]

[Text] Tel Aviv 5 April, TASS—Prime Minister of Israel Yitzhaq Rabin received Russian presidents' special envoy on Middle East settlement Viktor Posuvalyuk in Jerusalem on Monday. The Russian envoy arrived in Israel from Jordan, where he had a meeting with King Husayn. Prior to this, Posuvalyuk had participated in talks with President of Syria Hafiz al-Asad.

Posuvalyuk said that his mission is aimed at providing the maximum possible assistance to move ahead the Middle East peace process, help renew and complete talks between participants in this process within the framework of the active line followed by Russia. According to him, using its confidential ties with states and also with political leaders of the region, "Russia induces interested sides to implement all that has been contemplated at Madrid and what was agreed at Oslo, Washington and Cairo, without wasting any time."

"The tragedy at Hebron has laid bare the absolute truth that opponents of the negotiations are trying to take advantage of falling out of step and pauses in the negotiation process. This threatens a roll back and poses danger to all achievements of the peace process," the Russian envoy said.

"Main political forces, society and public as a whole in Russia are in favour of such an active and single-minded stand on the Middle East problem, the neighbourhood region for us, where today there exist and will exist in the future great interests of our state," Posuvalyuk concluded.

According to diplomatic sources, a meeting between the Russian representative and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres is to be held on Tuesday morning.

Political Issues

Economic Meeting Cancelled Due to Yeltsin's Schedule

LD0504093994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0836 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—The economic meeting announced for Tuesday under the chairmanship of the Russian president was canceled. The presidential press service did not explain the reasons, however, sources in the government explained the cancelation by heavy work schedule of the president.

Chernomyrdin on 'Further Revision'

LD0504101894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0940 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Apr—Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin's conference with members of the government, which was to have been held in the Kremlin today, has been "postponed for a few days by mutual agreement." Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin told an ITAR-TASS correspondent this today. Speaking of the reasons for rescheduling the conference, at which important decisions on Russia's socio-economic development in 1994 were to have been made, Viktor Chernomyrdin said that in view of the importance of the matter, a certain amount of further revision had to be done.

Yeltsin Interviewed on Constitution, Other Issues

BR0504131794 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 5 Apr 94 p 11

[Responses by Russian President Boris Yeltsin to written questions from Pilar Bonet; date, place not given: "I Will Leave Russia in Safe Hands"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Bonet] Is the political system of the republic set out in the new Constitution a transition model or is it designed to be a permanent solution tied to the specific conditions of Russia?

[Yeltsin] The processes developing in Russia today cannot be considered as having been "defused." The changes are coming thick and fast, and in these conditions it is difficult to make any long- term predictions. Moreover, with the adoption of the new Constitution we have determined the basis and the main parameters for the development of the political system for the next 10 or 15 years. Despite the various and even contradictory points of view of the new parties and political blocks, we are seeing increasingly clearly the formation of a national consensus based around a strong power. This is a response as much to historical tradition arising out of the dimensions of the state itself and the complex national make-up of society as to the needs of the current stage of transition from totalitarianism to democracy. Naturally, a strong power does not mean unlimited power, a lack of control, or authoritarianism. Moreover, the arbiter and supreme guarantor of the free development of Russia will be the expression of popular will, in democratic elections.

[Bonet] If you do not stand at the 1996 elections, what guarantees are there that a strong presidential power will not end up in the hands of a person with authoritarian or even neofascist tendencies?

[Yeltsin] For me it is not a problem of whether I stay or go. The problem is leaving Russia in safe and democratic hands. These hands must be capable of holding Russia's helm steady in a stormy sea. I believe that one of my main accomplishments by 1996 will have been to create the guarantee that prevents the country from falling into totalitarianism.

[Bonet] What are the conditions enabling the president and the new Russian parliament to maintain constructive relations?

[Yeltsin] It is necessary, firstly, to have political maturity in the main state institutions. There is no cure for the lack of a political culture—we need time. However, there are already good foundations for cooperation between the president and the parliament: the new Constitution stabilizes the principle of a clear division of powers. I also believe that we will learn our lesson from the dramatic outcome of the events of 3 and 4 October last year (the storming of the Russian parliament—LA REPUBBLICA editor's note). For my part, I have already learned the lesson and am in favor of dialogue and cooperation. Our shared duty is to isolate the extremist forces in parliament.

[Bonet] How do you intend to dissipate the growing fears in the countries of eastern Europe, including the former Soviet republics, faced with the dangers arising from the advancement of the radical nationalists in Russia?

[Yeltsin] These fears are unfounded. Russia cannot be transformed into a flourishing and stable country if it is a threat to its neighbors. If we had other intentions or ulterior motives we would not have withdrawn our troops. We had sufficient possibilities for staying put. Unfortunately, the politicians in the various countries are artificially exaggerating their fears and have brought a rain of complaints down on the international organizations. In general, these fake concerns hide concrete economic and political calculations—for example, obtaining rapid integration into NATO or using the scare tactics of the "Russian threat" in their internal struggles for power. Those who speculate on Russia's return to an imperialist doctrine are basing their fears merely on statements made by specific political extremists who are far from being able to formulate our country's foreign policy.

[Bonet] What is the state of relations between Russia and Ukraine?

[Yeltsin] Relations with Ukraine are complex. Its independence has posed many difficult problems. However, I am not going to dramatize the situation. We need to be less emotionally involved and take fewer hasty decisions. History cannot be undone: economic, social, demographic, and cultural needs will in time do the work that is impossible for politicians to do. I can see the prospect of a deep, multilateral integration, simply because there is no other solution. I am also convinced that we will manage to find a solution to the problem of the Black Sea Fleet based on the formula drawn up in Massandra at my meeting with President Kravchuk.

[Bonet] Is the Atlantic Alliance the best-suited collective security system for Russia? If so, why has Moscow not asked for membership of the organization? If it is not, what is the best system?

[Yeltsin] For decades, NATO has guaranteed security in West Europe at a time when there was a severe East-West confrontation between totalitarianism and democracy. However, at the same time, no one can ignore the radical changes that took place in Europe after the triumph of the democratic tendencies in Russia. It is uncomfortable to pretend that we are sitting in a chair that no longer exists. Today Russia does not threaten the world or Europe. In these conditions, it is counterproductive to retain intact a powerless system directed toward stiff opposition with the enemy. We must find new security formulae based, naturally, on the fact that NATO has useful experience and institutions that must be put to the best use. Russia must be able to participate in the same conditions and with the same security guarantees. We have ceased being rivals but we must learn how to be partners. The mechanical enlargement of the block with specific countries can only revive old fears and suspicions.

[Bonet] How do you think the countries of the West can contribute to supporting democracy and benefiting the success of economic reform in Russia?

[Yeltsin] We have gone through a phase of overoptimism. On the one hand, we ourselves overestimated the possibilities offered by the West, which today is experiencing difficult economic times and does not want to take any risks. Secondly, it is now clear that no one can really help Russia, given its economic contradictions and its specific characteristics inherited from the socialist regime. Our task today consists of creating normal economic and legal conditions for major investment. However, now is also the time that the West should stop feeling as a donator to Russia, and should start behaving like a clear-thinking businessman acting in his own interests. Russia must become one of the most profitable places in the world for capital investment.

[Bonet] Why until now has the fight against corruption in Russia yielded no results?

[Yeltsin] We must not look at things as if corruption were a specifically Russian phenomenon. Even in the most democratic country, there are those who profit from their positions as state employees, and wealthy people trying to profit from the greed of the civil servants for their own ends. We fight against this as we fight against any other type of crime or antisocial activity. However, in a number of cases the corruption has taken on threatening dimensions in Russia. We must not rely on the state being able to defeat them using solely repressive means. Just a short time ago, I signed a decree on state service that should serve to create an unfavorable social climate for corruption. We also need to create a system of social and material guarantees for state employees that give them a suitable standard of living and that then frees them from the need to look for other ways in. In short, we must try and create the conditions in which it will no longer be profitable for them to safely agree to corruption.

Yeltsin Spokesman Attacks Rutskoy on Civic Accord

LD0404152594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1454 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS—Spokesman of the Russian president Vyacheslav Kostikov denounced former Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy for becoming a "mouthpiece" of extremists "who try to kill the sprouts of civic accord" in Russia.

"The mourning ceremonies were used for the sake of rude historical falsification", Kostikov said in a statement on Monday referring to opposition rallies held over the weekend to mark the six-month anniversary of the October 3-4 armed revolt.

"People who had nearly unleashed a civil war in Russia, including the recently freed rebels, tried to pose for innocent victims, moreover, for judges accusing the president", Kostikov said.

Hopes that the amnesty to anti-Yeltsin rebels would sober them up do not come true, according to Kostikov. "In this connection it is especially urgent to consolidate all sound political forces around the unifying idea of the agreement on civic accord. Extremism must be stopped", the statement reads.

Filippov Views Accord Issue

PM0504084194 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Apr 94 p 1

[Commentary by Petr Filippov, chief of the Russian Federation president's information support administration: "Those Who Called for Violence Cannot Act As Judges, Believes Petr Filippov, chief of the Russian Federation President's Information Support Administration"—ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI headline]

[Text] I am convinced that the overwhelming majority of Russian citizens and politicians representing their interests in the Federal Assembly (and they are of the most

diverse orientations) advocate accord. There is no doubt that you will always find in society those who try to win political prestige by kindling hostility. There will be irresponsible politicians in the Federal Assembly too, and there will be such on the streets and squares.

It is essential to seek civil accord by all possible means which exist in society. There have been enough attempts to "rock the boat." Otherwise the future of Russia, the future of our people, will be jeopardized. Unless we try to halt political emotions now, we are threatened with a repetition of the sorry and tragic experience of Georgia and Tajikistan, where blood is now being shed. Preventing bloodshed—that is the main aim of the conclusion of civil accord.

It is finally time our society realized and considered what happened 3 and 4 October. Those to blame for those events, those who called for violence, are now acting almost as judges. God forbid that an inversion should take place in public awareness whereby the innocent are called the guilty and the guilty avoid trial. That is dangerous for the moral climate of society. The guilty must be punished individually, they cannot be allowed to turn into defenders of justice. There is a kind of dialectic under way—the combination of appeals for peace and accord on the one hand and on the other the refusal to accept under the slogan of accord those who want to live in a normal society, a society of civil accord.

Yeltsin Cites 'Shared' Positions With Russia's Choice

LD0404181194 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1615 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Today Russian President Boris Yeltsin met representatives of the Russia's Choice faction in the Kremlin. Russia's Choice leader, Yegor Gaydar, told Interfax that issues on domestic policies and the situation in different regions had been discussed during the meeting.

Russia's Choice representatives informed Yeltsin about difficulties linked to legislative activities in the State Duma. They said from the point of view of legislation the State Duma's activities were not as yet efficient. The issue concerning coordination of the work of the president and deputies in order to make the State Duma more efficient was also discussed during the meeting.

Yeltsin stressed that he shared the political position of the Russia's Choice Party and that he would closely cooperate with it.

Gaydar said that Yeltsin also stated that Russia's Choice was the party on which he would back in his activities. However, Yeltsin emphasized that this did not mean that he would ignore positions of other factions and public organizations.

Gaydar announced that Yeltsin would try to find contacts with other Russian political forces since he was the president of all Russians, and would meet representatives of other parties and blocs in order to work out mutually beneficial decisions and to achieve accord in society.

The Russian president's press service said Yeltsin was satisfied with the good productive relations he had with State Duma Speaker, Ivan Rybkin.

Zhirinovskiy Expels Duma Member Marychev

LD0404182694 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1615 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Vyacheslav Marychev, elected to the Russian State Duma on the party ticket of Liberal-Democrats, has been expelled from the party. This was reported to the press on Monday by Marychev himself. He said he was notified by the party leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky just before the 5th congress of Liberal-Democrats held in Moscow last Saturday. He also said that security guards did not let him into the Central Tourists' House where the congress was held even though the convention was open to everyone.

Marychev said his expulsion had been caused by a number of speeches in which he actively resisted the so-called imperative mandate being given to party groups. It would give groups the right to strip members of the State Duma elected on party tickets of their mandates.

During a visit to St.Petersburg before the congress Zhirinovsky repeatedly declared that Marychev who used to lead the local branch of the Liberal-Democratic Party accepted bribes, in particular from Russia's Choice, for making statements directed against the leader.

Marychev said he was ready to sue Zhirinovsky for libel if the conflict is not settled. However, in reply to a question from Interfax he said he was not disappointed in Zhirinovsky as a person. He said he still considers the party leader a talented politician.

The decision of the congress to make Zhirinovsky the party chairman till 2004 and grant him absolute power between congresses contradicts party rules, said Marychev.

Members of the State Duma Vyacheslav Marychev, Viktor Kobelev and Alexander Pronin expelled by Zhirinovsky from the Liberal-Democratic Party are planning to hold a news conference at the State Duma on Wednesday.

Yeltsin Praises Constitutional Court Work

LD0404183194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1814 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS—Russian President Boris Yeltsin met with Acting Chief Justice Nikolay Vitruk on Monday to discuss the draft law on the Russian Constitutional Court finalised by a conciliatory commission.

The commission included members of the State Duma Committee for Legislation and Judicial Reform, presidential representatives in the parliament, experts from the presidential state and law department and Constitutional Court judges.

Yeltsin gave a positive assessment to the work done, noting that no one who could have done it better than the Constitutional Court. He stressed that from the very outset he had considered disputes about the Constitutional Court's right to initiate legislation as groundless.

Yeltsin told Vitruk that he will instruct his representative in the State Duma to convey his assessment and proposals to the deputies.

The president and Vitruk also discussed candidates for judges in the Constitutional Court. Yeltsin regretted that the suggested list practically does not represent subjects of the federation.

He stressed that the final list to be approved by the Federation Council, upper house of Russia's new parliament, can be submitted only after the adoption of the law on the Constitutional Court which will determine the requirements for judges, including age limit, terms of office and others.

ITAR-TASS Views Candidates in Presidential Race

LD0404135994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1144 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS news analyst Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS—Architect of Russian reform Yegor Gaydar and ultra-nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy have signalled the beginning of the presidential race over the weekend thus marking two different poles in the campaign.

On Friday Gaydar announced the creation of a pro-Yeltsin party—the "Russia's Choice", while Zhirinovskiy was confirmed as a presidential candidate by the congress of his Liberal Democratic Party held on Saturday under the motto "LDPR to Power".

Gaydar is representing the democratic-reformist movement, while Zhirinovskiy—the "neoimperial" one.

The space between them is occupied by all other politicians—moderate reformer Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, supporter of Russian regions Sergey Shakhray, former Vice-President Aleksandr Rutskoy and communist Gennadiy Zyuganov.

However, Boris Yeltsin may himself join the race if he sees no worthy successor. He said that in an interview to the Spanish "EL PAIS" newspaper.

The outcome of the two-year long presidential race depends mostly on the results of economic policy of the president and the government. Gaydar clearly understands that and lists three priorities of the economic programme—tax reform, investments into economy and legal guarantees of private property.

Zhirinovskiy's main ideas is to protect Russians in the CIS and Slavs in the world at any cost, to restore Russian borders of 1975 and create a one-party government. He complained that Yeltsin is now dealing only with the Russia's Choice and ignores the Liberal Democratic Party which came first in December parliamentary elections.

It is not a secret that the president prefers the "Russia's Choice" and this puts additional responsibility on the party. It has to learn lessons from the last election campaign when it lost to Zhirinovskiy despite all predictions of a landslide victory.

Democrats then only limited themselves to general discussions on TV, but failed to create grass-root organisations across the country and offer concrete economic measures to improve life. It seems that Gaydar is well aware of the mistakes and realises that hard everyday work is necessary to ensure success in 1996.

Yeltsin Viewed as 'Nomenklatura' Leader

PM0504111394 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 4

[Sergey Chugayev article: "When Choosing Between Reforms and Power, Politicians Usually Choose Power"]

[Text] Last week's statement by the president's press secretary that B. Yeltsin might participate in the next elections for head of state not as a voter but as a contender has sparked a succession of statements from prominent politicians that they have no ambitions for the presidency. F. Fedorov and V. Chernomyrdin, in particular, have told the public so.

Meanwhile, at Saturday's fifth congress of the LDPR [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] V. Zhirinovskiy was declared as the party's presidential election candidate. At the same time, the Liberal Democrat chairman received virtually unlimited powers from his comrades in arms and now has the opportunity to personally decide all party problems, including those which are the exclusive responsibility of the congress. "When we say the leader we mean the party, and when we say the party we mean the leader," V. Zhirinovskiy stated.

The LDPR congress graphically demonstrated that a vigorous aggressive political force is rapidly taking shape in Russia and that the opposition's main problem, as a result of which it has constantly been defeated in the struggle against the president, seems to have been resolved. And this in turn is creating the preconditions for attracting into the LDPR's orbit not only an increasing number of rank-and-file supporters but also additional social groups and political movements. The

presence of V. Achalov, who recently left Lefortovo, on the congress platform and of A. Lukyanov and Sterligov on the platform of the Congress of Slav Peoples is ample illustration of this. In brief, the congress slogan "The LDPR—Heading for Power" should be taken extremely seriously.

The political situation currently developing in Russia is beginning to increasingly resemble the situation which existed in the USSR in mid-1991. Now, following the adoption of the new Constitution, the president has finally moved from being a leader of the populist, democratic type to being the leader of the nomenklatura. He has become this both in his (constitutional) capacity as head of state and in his (de facto) capacity as head of the executive. But, despite everything, the state apparatus remains the most powerful political and economic force alike in our country. Thus, the president does not need his own party, talk about which is now into its second year. If B. Yeltsin enters the next elections, he will do so as the leader of the party of the nomenklatura. And it is no coincidence that the main theme of his message to parliament was the problem of strengthening the state. And the steps we are now seeing to strengthen and bolster the state apparatus are the logical continuation of his report.

But it is at this point that an inevitable contradiction arises. The more powerful the state nomenklatura, the greater its leader's apparent chance of winning the election. But the strengthening of the nomenklatura constrains a civil society, which in this situation is bound to move across to opposition to it. You see, as we all remember, B. Yeltsin won precisely as the leader of the anti-nomenklatura opposition, and on the road to victory he had to pursue a policy aimed at weakening the nomenklatura and, as a consequence, weakening the state machine.

Furthermore, since in our country the state is still more powerful than civil society, it is the head of state who bears the responsibility for the state of affairs in the country, and first and foremost the state of the economy. And although it is well known that the state of the Russian economy reflects the state of society as a whole and is largely independent of the president and that the present crisis is inevitable, and that one of the main reasons for it is Russia's shortage of skilled cadres capable of working actively in market conditions, it is nevertheless B. Yeltsin who will have to carry the can.

The greatest likelihood, therefore, is that unless there are some real changes for the better in the country's economy before the next presidential elections, B. Yeltsin will find himself in the same situation as M. Gorbachev in 1989-1991, while a rival will find himself where B. Yeltsin was at that time, since his future rival will speak out against the state machine, which, furthermore, is much weaker than it was under the first president of the USSR. This is another reason why the hints from the top echelons of power that they will not allow an undesirable figure to come to power look somewhat unconvincing. Just how can you prevent the legitimate winner of presidential elections coming to power? Another attempted putsch? There is little reason to believe that if such an attempt failed in 1991, when the putschists had all the power of the empire available, it would be successful now.

By announcing through his press secretary the possibility that he might participate in the next presidential elections B. Yeltsin has put himself in a pretty difficult position. On the one hand, the intensification of nomenklatura power lessens his chances of winning the election. But on the other, the weakening of this power leads to the weakening of his party. The president therefore has an extremely difficult task to resolve: How to regain the status of a political leader while also remaining the leader of the nomenklatura. There appears to be only one possible solution: Going into the elections as leader of all the democratic movements while at the same time gambling not on strengthening the state but on reducing the state apparatus to the optimum size, democratizing it, bringing the apparatus into line with the requirements of a market economy and the new conditions taking shape in the regions, and reforming local self-government (including the holding of elections of leaders of local administrations). That is, following the path of strengthening a specifically democratic state, which means strengthening those state institutions which are based on a civil society.

At the same time the developments currently taking place in the state apparatus provide grounds for concluding that what we can see there is, on the contrary, an intensification of the trend toward restoring the administrative system which existed in Russia for decades—a rigidly centralized executive hierarchy. But in general this is natural if you consider that state apparatus cadres consist mainly of members of the party and soviet nomenklatura. They have moved up from the number three or number four jobs to the top jobs. But their psychology and mentality are still the same. There is a perfectly obvious desire to transform the President's Administration into an analog of the CPSU Central Committee and recreate an administrative model of the Central Committee-oblast committee-rayon committee type, relying in the regions on governors linked tightly to the center.

This model is already beginning to come into conflict with Russia's embryonic civil society. Maritime Kray Governor Ye. Nazdratenko fired the legally elected mayor of Vladivostok. Soon after this, Mayor D. Bednyakov of Nizhniy Novgorod, who had every chance of making the transition from an appointed to an elected mayor, found himself removed from his post. The head of St. Petersburg is demanding Moscow's permission to put military patrols on the streets. Here they all invoke the need to establish iron discipline.

All the indications are that the state apparatus is approaching the limit of its potential for simultaneously resolving—as it has been doing these past two years—the

two tasks of implementing reforms (taking account of its own interests, of course) and strengthening its own power. The contradictions are becoming unsurmountable, and a choice has to be made: reforms or power. Taking account of the fate of all Russian reforms this century—Stolypin's, the New Economic Policy, Khrushchev's—it is not hard to guess what the choice will be.

Counterintelligence Chief Stepashin Interviewed

PM0504110594 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 94 p 3

[Interview with Sergey Stepashin, director of the Federal Counterintelligence Service, by Aleksandr Gamov and Vladimir Murashkin; date and place not given: "Sergey Stepashin: We Have Caught, Are Catching, and Will Continue to Catch Spies. New Lubyanka Boss Gives KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA His First Interview"]

[Text] [KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Sergey Vadimovich, whenever the special services were mentioned in the past, people would first recall the spies which our agents had caught. Now the concept of "economic security" has entered the vocabulary. To what extent is this area a priority for the Foreign Counterintelligence Service [FCS]?

[Stepashin] Well, first, we have been catching spies and we will continue to do so—we are tasked with that function by the statute on our service published 30 March in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA and ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI. Incidentally, I wrote to Sergey Aleksandrovich Filatov, the leader of the Presidential Administration, asking him to remove the "for official use" classification from the document and have it published in the press. People should know what we do.

We tackled economic security issues in the past as well, but this applied more to security measures at defense enterprises, nuclear power stations, and other strategic installations. All that remains, but, at the same time, new areas have emerged. In general, many departments should safeguard economic security, as should the "producers" themselves—the banks, say. We are looking at our participation in this from the standpoint of combating corruption in financial, lending, and banking structures, other state and commercial organizations, and various investment funds. Moreover, we are helping the Central Bank of Russia to carry out credit and other operations, and major enterprises to conclude contracts with foreign firms.

Economic security issues account for two of the FCS' five basic directorates. To be blunt, it is quite an important force.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Doesn't it strike you that the threat to our economy today comes not so much from abroad as from inside the country—a proposition which was raised quite recently?

[Stepashin] Indeed, in the past the economic security issue was interpreted one-sidedly—that is, it was linked solely to external factors. I am thinking of the restrictive policy of the industrially developed states and the IMF, which placed bans on lending to the USSR, on the supply of goods and advanced technology, and so forth.

Domestic factors helping to undermine the economy were not profoundly studied or were often simply hushed up. But their destructive effect on all spheres of the national economy has been far greater in scale and longer-term. Society has suffered immense damage, for instance, from the denial on ideological grounds of the existence of a corruption problem in the top echelons of party and state power, or of the presence in the country of a ramified black market system.

Today the impact of internal "time bombs" undermining the economy has not only not been halted but is actually growing stronger. Just take the problem of economic ties. In my view, this is now the main destabilizing factor.

Needless to say, the main role in preventing these threats is played by the top organs of state power—the government and its structures—since they are the people who shape economic policy and define the mechanism for its implementation. As for FCS subunits, we see our task—along with those already mentioned—as being to ensure that top state administrative organs have accurate and timely information on negative trends in basic sectors and spheres of the national economy and on emergencies, and to provide forecasts of the possible consequences.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Does this mean that the FCS is now mainly just a forecasting and analysis body?

[Stepashin] No, of course not. Counterintelligence operatives are above all men of action. And if the discussion of our work to safeguard Russia's economic security were to continue, I could mention a lot of specific cases. Because of space constraints in your newspaper I will quote just a few of the most typical.

In the course of the joint "Trawl" operation with organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD], the Customs, and the Prosecutor's Office, our territorial subunits managed to uncover around 270 criminal structures specializing in the illegal export of strategic raw materials and licensed products. In total over the past year we have put a stop to more than 1,200 such illegal acts, giving rise to almost 300 criminal cases. The illegal export from the Russian Federation of more than 636,000 tonnes of oil and oil products, 100,000-odd tonnes of metals—including 44,000 tonnes of nonferrous and rare-earth metals—as well as timber, lumber, and other products worth around 150 billion rubles [R] in total has been prevented.

Federal security organs conducted the "Barrier" operation at 16 airports around the country and put a stop to

the illegal export from Russia by air of more than 400 kg of electronic components containing gold, around 30 kg of gold and silver bars, as well as 237 cutting tools with diamonds of up to two carats worth R58 million.

As a result of the measures taken on the basis of information supplied by FCS organs more than 400 major disasters and the preconditions for them were successfully prevented in 1993—including 54 at nuclear power generating installations.

Incidentally, a great many examples could be quoted of Russian slackness, waste, and blatant stealing from the country. And work in this area is terra incognita for our counterintelligence agents.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Does this mean that we are harming ourselves and that the West is just helping us?

[Stepashin] Things are not that simple. Foreign firms, exploiting the situation in our country, are striving to expand scientific and technical links with Russia to their own advantage. They are trying to organize an intensive outflow of Russian scientific ideas, high technology, and advanced arms and military equipment systems.

In the United States, France, Germany, Brazil, Israel, China, and South Korea these actions are supported at state level. We know that the range of theoretical and practical scientific results in Russia that are of interest to foreigners extends to space and aviation equipment, biotechnology, new materials, nuclear physics, laser equipment, metallurgy, and high-tech and defense sectors of industry.

Information reaching the Russian FCS on this problem shows that in the very near future our country could lose its leading position in the development of basic and applied research, be deprived of many scientific schools and highly qualified cadres, and suffer considerable and essentially irreparable material damage. Calculations done by specialists from the Russian Federation Ministry of Science and Technology Policy using UN methods show that the country loses around $300,000 for every specialist that goes abroad. Russia could suffer potential damage of around $20 billion annually through emigration.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Sergey Vadimovich, could you describe the work of the Western special services to safeguard their countries' economic security?

[Stepashin] The United States devotes a great deal of attention to strengthening the activity of counterintelligence organs in preserving and strengthening America's leading position militarily and economically. In the Americans' opinion, the strategic threats to U.S. interests persist under present-day conditions. In this connection intelligence community experts are pointing out that Russia and the other CIS countries are still the priority targets for the special services.

Moreover, insofar as we are aware, the intelligence community is fully tasked with the function of economic counterespionage—and the special services are being told to be "more aggressive" when conducting counterintelligence operations.

According to the available information, the special services of the East European countries are also becoming an important tool in implementing their leaderships' "eastern" policy. Their priority effort is concentrated on infiltrating leading structures in the CIS states in order to obtain not only economic but military and political information.

We know that special organs from the East European states are in close contact with the NATO special services, which give them financial, material, and technical support.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] According to calculations by specialists, several tens of billions of dollars are taken out of Russia every year. Can't this outflow of foreign exchange be sealed off?

[Stepashin] Of course it can—but not only and not so much with the help of the special services. In this area we have to work in conjunction with the tax service, the tax police, the MVD, and the Customs. We plan to set up several such joint groupings under the auspices of the Prosecutor's Office. But this is not enough. Our administrative law and code of criminal procedure have long become obsolete, and we are working under the conditions of the former political and economic system. We have plenty of material, but we cannot act on it. The facts we have to hand are not being used for investigations—much less for instituting criminal proceedings and court cases.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] What about simply legalizing activity that is currently deemed criminal? Maybe then our "dealers" would not send their dollars abroad?

[Stepashin] Far too much has been legalized as it is! And money is going abroad because of the unstable political situation. Many people are scared to invest their capital here—they fear for their future. Moreover, some of the radical opposition is gripped with the idea of the expropriation of the expropriators, and the experience of 1917 is not such ancient history for them. Consequently, it is only when we have a normal political atmosphere that we can talk about stopping the flight of capital. Needless to say, I do not choose people who are indifferent to the interests of our country and its people. These people have always been with us, are with us, and always will be—and if they commit crimes they need to be combated, using special service methods if necessary.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] We talk so much about corruption! You get the feeling that we are on top of it, when the opposite is true....

[Stepashin] This phenomenon has been brought about primarily by the current position in the economy and by the lack of legislation on the civil service. We are discussing corruption, but from the standpoint of the criminal code the subject of our complaints essentially does not exist. We do not have any clear-cut framework to guide civil servants at all levels—up to and including government members—about what they are forbidden to do and what they are responsible for. That is why people are lobbying for the most fantastic agreements.

Exploiting their important position, certain officials are making approaches to foreign firms, selling them our enterprises' products at considerably reduced prices, and taking bribes in return. The most interesting point is that most corrupt people do not think of themselves as such—they claim to be just entrepreneurs. We are currently investigating the "Neftalmazinvest" Foundation. High-ranking officials from the State Committee for the Management of State Property are involved in this major affair.

There is a very alarming situation with oil. It is currently monopolized by several structures. This strategic raw material is going abroad without any controls. Ukraine has not paid Russia for oil received throughout all of last year and the year before, and it is still receiving oil. Who took how many bribes for that? Why are products with different octane ratings flowing through the same pipeline?

In other words, corruption now affects many of the most important spheres—privatization, the credit and financial sphere, banking, investment and foreign economic activity.... According to available information, the degree to which the economy has been affected by this "bacillus" is quite considerable and is continuing to increase rapidly.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Sergey Vadimovich, be frank—do you believe your work will be successful (I am thinking of the fight against corruption)?

[Stepashin] If everything depended on us alone.... Today you can often hear voices claiming that the FCS should be disbanded—with one directorate being given to the Finance Ministry, another to the Justice Ministry, and so forth. You get the impression that people either don't know what the Finance and Justice Ministries do, or they are deliberately raising the question of scrapping the FCS.

This talk is coming up now that we have started active work, particularly in opposing foreign stations. We now have very serious approaches to a number of economic structures and have once again gone on the attack. Certain newspapers specialize directly in this. There are no prizes for guessing that there are people who find counterintelligence a big problem when it gets "too close" to them and their machinations.

And this is not just a question of the foreign "agents of influence" to whom we often refer. Some of our pseudocampaigners for democracy and justice are also attacking the special services. And these actions are deliberate and by no means the fruit of a sick fantasy run riot in the spring.

I would like to recall the words of Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin during our recent meeting—Russia, the state, and the president need a strong special service that can work effectively in all areas.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] But won't the FCS, in actively dealing with economic security, leave other "sections of the front" exposed?

[Stepashin] No, that is ruled out. Everyone does his own job. For instance, this year we have already arrested British and German spies, and we caught them "clean"—in other words, red-handed. The other day we also caught red-handed three staffers from the North Korean Embassy attempting to buy state-of-the-art technology, as well as a BND (FRG intelligence) agent trying to recruit a Russian officer in the Western Group of Forces. Of course, such results raise the morale of counterintelligence officers and enhance their sense of their own worth. Military counterintelligence has become more active. We are recording many recruitment approaches from the German special services to the contingent of Russian troops being withdrawn from Germany.

Means have also now been taken to improve the work of our information and analysis subunits. In the last two weeks alone we have sent the president 25 analytical materials on a wide range of security problems—including "hot" spots, foreign special services' aspirations, and economic issues....

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] Can the reorganization of the special service responsible for the state's security now be said to be complete?

[Stepashin] I think so. The fundamental reform has been completed, but we will be constantly improving our structure.

[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA] What is the renewed profile of the Lubyanka now?

[Stepashin] We have gotten rid of certain militia functions—put it that way—which are alien to the special service. We have also lost the Border Guards and our investigative subunits. We have somewhat reduced our central apparatus—particularly our administrative apparatus—and changed our organizational and staffing structure. The FCS has become more compact.

I should note that these reorganizations did not begin solely as a result of the president's edict—they were a call of the times. Back in September 1993 we independently started reforming the Security Ministry. The Russian president then received the first note from the Security Ministry Collegium, in which we proposed a number of

new approaches. These were subsequently implemented in the 5 January 1994 presidential edict setting up the Russian Federation FCS.

We have completely recertificated our staff—from operatives to the deputy director of the FCS. But we have not carried out any kind of "purge"—much less one for political motives. Certain workers were dismissed for being professionally unsuited to the job, while some have left for reasons of age and other reasons. I think that what we are left with are the best—at least from the standpoint of understanding the need to conscientiously serve the fatherland. [Stepashin ends]

From the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA Dossier

Sergey Vadimovich Stepashin was born 2 March 1952. He is a graduate of the USSR MVD Higher Political College and the V.I. Lenin Military-Political Academy. He served in the Internal Troops. He was Russian Federation Federal Security Agency administration chief for St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast from September 1991. In January 1992 he became Russian Federation deputy and in September 1993 first deputy minister of security. From 1990 through September 1993 he was a Russian Federation people's deputy and headed the Russian Federation Supreme Soviet Defense and Security Committee. He was appointed Russian FCS director in March 1994. He is a lieutenant general and a candidate of historical sciences.

He is married and has a son.

Yeltsin Makes Counterintelligence Appointments

PM0404153794 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Apr 94 First Edition p 2

[Vladimir Yanchenkov report: "Civil Accord Is Condition for Stability"]

[Excerpts] During a routine briefing given by the Russian president's press secretary, Vyacheslav Kostikov, Russian and foreign journalists were briefed on the main issues the president will tackle in the near future. [passage omitted]

Journalists were informed that over the last few days B.N. Yeltsin has signed a number of edicts appointing 250 generals and senior officers of the Federal Counterintelligence Service [FCS], and that this most important department is fully staffed. The Statute on the FCS has been published in ROSSIYSKIYA GAZETA, the press secretary stressed. This is all the more gratifying in that such documents were strictly classified n the past. [passage omitted]

Yeltsin Edict on Protecting State Secrets

PM0404130094 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Apr 94 First Edition p 4

[Edict No. 614 of Russian Federation President "Questions of the Protection of State Secrets" signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin and dated Moscow, the Kremlin, 30 March 1994]

[Text] In accordance with Article 20 of the Russian Federation Law "On State Secrets" and with a view to coordinating the activity of federal organs of state power in protecting state secrets, I decree:

1. That the Russian Federation President's State Technical Commission is to be temporarily vested with the functions of an interdepartmental commission for the protection of state secrets.

2. That the Russian Federation Government, the Russian Federation Security Council, and the Russian Federation President's Administration are to present within one month in accordance with established procedure proposals for ensuring the activity of the Russian Federation President's State Technical Commission in connection with its being temporarily vested with the functions of an interdepartmental commission for the protection of state secrets.

3. That the Russian Federation Government in conjunction with the Russian Federation Security Council and the Russian Federation President's State Technical Commission is to submit by 15 May 1994 in accordance with the established procedure proposals for further improving the management of the system of safeguarding state secrets in accordance with the Russian Federation Law "On State Secrets."

4. The present decree comes into force the moment it is signed.

[Signed] Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin
Moscow, the Kremlin, 30 March 1994, No. 614

Economic Issues

Minister on Agrarian Reform Program

PM0404155194 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 2 Apr 94 p 1

[Aleksandr Vasilyev report: "Peasant's Right To Choose"]

[Text] V. Khlystun, Russian minister of agriculture and food, held a news conference Thursday [31 March] on the results of a government presidium session which examined, in addition to other matters, the draft program for agrarian reform in 1994-1995.

The presidium approved the draft program and instructed interested ministries and departments to finalize it in due course and submit it to the Federal Assembly for final ratification. The program assesses the results of the first stages of agrarian reform involving the transformation of property relations with regard to ownership of land and the means of production and the reorganization of agricultural enterprises. A considerable proportion of the program is devoted to the development

of a market infrastructure with wholesale markets, market information, and everything necessary for a multisectoral agrarian economy. A mechanism is also envisaged to provide agricultural producers with state support.

An important part of the program is the introduction of a civilized land market, which will enable the owner of a plot of land to sell it and a buyer to purchase it. But, the minister stressed, this cannot totally escape state regulation. Nowhere in the world is there a land market without certain restrictions. And Russia has them too.

First: Agricultural land must not be taken out of agricultural use as a result of a sale and cannot be used for other purposes. Second: A maximum area is established for a plot of land that a physical person can privately own. Third: Agricultural land can be acquired only by a person who has the ability and opportunity to work the land himself, predominantly by using his family, and who lives in the given area.

Fedorov Discusses Economic Situation

LD0504113994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1044 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Bantin]

[Text] Tokyo April 5 TASS—One dollar will be exchanged for approximately 10,000 rubles by the end in the year in Russia, and the pace of inflation will heighten considerably unless the Russian Government takes appropriate measures, Boris Fedorov, chairman of the parliamentary subcommittee on the monetary policy and the activity of the Central Bank of Russia, former Russian finance minister, told ITAR-TASS. Today he left Japan where he was staying for several days at the invitation of the Japanese foreign minister in the composition of the "Union of December 12" group of deputies.

Fedorov said that due to the lowering of the rate of inflation in Russia to 9.8 per cent in February and 8 per cent in March, the Russian Government now has a unique chance to bring inflation under control and complete successful efforts of many months for financial stabilisation. The Cabinet of Ministers now has an opportunity to capitalise on the emergent results on the policy pursued by the previous government", Fedorov said. "However, the Chernomyrdin government has not taken in the three and a half months a single step that could be described as that of a reformer cabinet, and this gives rise to concern".

If the present government continues to adhere to this stand, the roll back form the economic milestones reached will become inevitable in the weeks ahead", Fedorov believes. He said that the initial sign of this will be the granting of large subsidies to state-owned enterprises and the allocation of approximately 3,000 billion rubles to agricultural enterprises planned for April. This step will thwart the opportunity of making in Russia the most painless financial stabilisation in world history, the opportunity which is real now, Fedorov said.

Fedorov expressed the opinion that the Chernomyrdin government may remain in office no longer than autumn of this year unless it switches from a passive policy to an active course at reform. "If the cabinet does not take real actions by autumn, the government will be at least reshuffled", the former Russian finance minister said. He expressed the readiness to enter a cabinet again if the necessary powers are granted.

Nuclear & Military Issues

Protesting Nuclear Employees Say No Money To Buy Fuel

LD0504103494 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0909 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Balyakin]

[Text] Moscow April 5 TASS—Russian nucear power plants have no money to buy fuel and carry out maintenance work although they are highly profitable, TASS was told on Tuesday by Vladimir Kashkin, chairman of the strike committee which organised a protest action at the Russian Government building on Tuesday. "If the problem is not solved the nuclear power plants will simply shut down", he warned. Three-month delays in wage payments are also a reason of the protest, although not the major one, according to Kashkin.

"Our objective is to be heard by the government. A special meeting is necessary on problems of nuclear and fuel production", said Kashkin who is also deputy chairman of the trade union of nuclear industry workers.

After the Chernobyl catastrophe nuclear reactors had to be modernised, however the lack of finances stalled the work. "We know too well what this is fraught with", Kashkin said. The government reportedly owes the indstry 600 billion roubles.

Some 60 people from eight nuclear power plants are picketing the government building instead of expected 150.

Military Councils Adopt New Work Style

PM0504101594 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 Mar 94 p 1

[Article by Anatoliy Belousov: "Military Councils Change Work Style. What Is New About It?"]

[Excerpts] Military councils have always existed. Or, at least, they have existed since the olden days. In all wars, there have always been occasions when military leaders have deemed it necessary to submit their plans for upcoming battles for discussion with their commanders. But right until the 17-19th centuries, commanders and commanders-in-chief only convened military councils

occasionally. Remember, for example, the famous military council convened by M.I. Kutuzov in Fili [village outside Moscow] in 1812. [passage omitted]

In accordance with the Russian Federation president's edict dated 1 September 1993, which ratifies the Statute on Military Councils, these have been given the status of permanently operating consultative organs. They are formed in the Armed Forces, the Border Guard, Internal, and Railroad Troops, and government communications troops. In addition to commanders of the relevant formations, whose deputies belong to the councils ex officio, and also other officials from organs of military administration, the Russian Federation president includes representatives of state structures in them.

One of the main tasks of the present-day military councils is to elaborate recommendations in spheres such as maintaining the troops in combat and mobilization readiness, strengthening organization and discipline, and the selection and placing of personnel. But after all, even in the past these questions were frequently reviewed at sittings of military councils. So what has changed? Let us look at practice.

The Strategic Missile Forces which, incidentally, started to elaborate a state-of-the-art concept of the activity of military councils even before the decree currently in force was issued, carefully analyzed their work in formations, and then turned to the archives and discovered an interesting detail. The same shortcomings were revealed as had existed three, five, and even 10 years ago. The basic spheres of the work of the military councils in the operational echelon were determined from above by circulars. The standard set of mandatory questions moved from one plan to the next, and decrees were adopted on them. But the main point is that when attempts were made to find traces of their practical implementation in the relevant services, these were not discovered. That is, the same "collective responsibility" stamped its mark on everything—in reality, collective irresponsibility.

In order to break the vicious circle, the attitude to the planning of the military councils' work needed to be changed first and foremost. Of course, programmed areas of the troops' activity exist, and their examination may be recommended from above. But the main point is that the commander, like the chairman of the military council, should have a free hand, because he knows his formation's problems better than other people do.

The actual sittings, the majority of which are visiting sittings, have also started being prepared in a new way. They are held directly in divisions and units. Practical studies on the questions being discussed are being conducted in parallel with commanders and chiefs of services. Urgent measures to back up combat training and the troops' vital activity are also adopted on the spot.

But it is known that even the best decisions may remain on paper only if a mechanism for their implementation is not worked out. That is why the orders and directives being issued on the results of the work of military councils and being sent to the appropriate services and Strategic Missile Forces directorates also contain provisions enabling the adopted decisions to be implemented.

A constructive attitude to work is also characteristic of the military council of the Ground Forces. Let us take the problem of protecting the lives and health of the personnel. The measures being adopted in the troops have made it possible to reduce the number of injuries among the personnel by 39 percent last year, and the number of deaths by 28 percent. However, the military council was not satisfied with this. At its recent sitting, it elaborated specific recommendations for the accident-free use of equipment and weapons in order to reduce injuries to people. The question of ensuring the safekeeping of weapons and ammunition, which is directly linked to this, was also examined. With the great shortage of manpower, there has been reliance upon the more intensive commissioning of security equipment and facilities at military installations and weapons dumps.

However, military councils' tasks in the present conditions are not just limited to internal problems in the troops. Every military formation is stationed on the administrative territory of a specific republic or kray, and the implementation of Russian Federation normative acts and the social and legal protection of the servicemen depends in many respects on how well the work of the military councils with the local authorities is organized. Measures such as the organization of the defense of the territories, the region's communications, mobilization, and the draft to military service, and military training courses cannot be resolved by either local authorities or military formations on their own. And what about strictly everyday questions?! A kray or oblast counts on the military's assistance in the gathering of the harvest, and the latter, for their part, ask for housing to be subsidized.... The list of problems which must be resolved by both is long, but the whole question is how resolvable they are at all amid the current shortage of everything—both for the military and for the local authorities.

Nevertheless, it turns out that if the will is there you can achieve a lot. The activity of the military councils of the Moscow, Volga, North Caucasus, Urals, and certain other [military] districts confirms this. The coordinated work of the councils with the organs of representative and executive power, as well as—and this is also very important—good personal contacts, make it possible to settle a lot of vitally important questions. This is not just limited to mutual services, if you can put it like that: We give you apartments, you give us a work force. Concern for invalids and veterans of war and labor, the establishment of ties of sponsorship between enterprises and military units, the military-patriotic education of young people—these things are classed as state-level.

Of course it is six months since the military councils have been working the new way, which is not a very long

period of time, but it seems that this is long enough for the first shoots of the new work to be seen. Experience suggests that a military council should specifically be a council of the military, as it was conceived at the very beginning. As such it will raise the prestige of the commander and will make it possible for his personality to be revealed, and it will strengthen the positions of one-man command. As such it will be in a position to elaborate genuinely necessary recommendations on all important spheres, ranging from the practical implementation of military policy in the troops and fleets, to ordinary everyday concerns.

Federal Assembly

Committees Reject Agricultural Reform Program

LD0404182894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1615 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] At parliamentary hearings on the pace of land reform in Russia, the Federation Council's and the State Duma's Agrarian Committees rejected the program on agricultural reform for 1994-1995, endorsed by the government on March 31.

In the opinion of participants in the debates, the plan drawn up by the agriculture and food ministry "could at best be an agricultural policy concept as it falls short of specific recommendations for better farm production."

They argued that an agricultural development program last "at least until 2000" and indicate not only guidelines and stages of reform but also "concrete results" that Russian farmers could achieve if the plan succeeded.

A statement adopted at the end of the parliamentary hearings recommends that the National Agricultural Academy and agriculture and food ministry put the final touches to a federal program on measures to carry out agrarian reform, restore and develop agro-industrial production by the year 2000, worked out by a group of experts led by ex vice-president Aleksandr Rutskoy in early 1993.

The cabinet was asked to submit the rehashed variant of this program for debate in the parliament's lower and upper houses by May this year.

State Duma Postpones Debates on Civil Accord

LD0404110994 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1054 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Pavel Kuznetsov]

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS—The Russian State Duma's council today decided to postpone the debate about the accord on civil peace in Russia until its new version is fully prepared. Duma Chairman Ivan Rybkin said that after the text of the memorandum was conveyed to the lower chamber on Thursday, the presidential structures prepared "the basic version of the document". The version received by the State Duma was described by Ivan Rybkin as "intermediary".

Federation Council Appeals for Peace in Caucasus

PM0404123494 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 1

["At the Federation Council: Appeal to the Peoples of Ingushetia and North Ossetia"—ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA headline]

[Text] We Federation Council deputies, concerned with the quest for a peaceful solution to the protracted conflict between Russians living in the Ingush Republic and the Republic of North Ossetia, urge the Ossetians, Ingush, and representatives of all nationalities living in these republics to lay down their weapons and resolve the problems that have built up over a long period by peaceful means.

Stop, people! Brothers! Fathers! Men and sons! Give your land peace! Give your mothers, sisters, and daughters peace! Give your peoples a chance to be constructive! The mountain people have always been respected for their wisdom, honesty, dignity, and tolerance. You have lived side by side and together found a way out of the most difficult of situations while respecting one another. Have the mountain people really lost these qualities today?

We appeal to the women of Ingushetia and North Ossetia. Mothers! We ask you to hold your sons back from the awful brink of going on with interethnic war. There have been enough wars and devastation! There have been enough tears and suffering! Your land can no longer bear so much pain. It will curse everyone who sheds people's blood.

We appeal to you, veterans! Esteemed wise veterans! You traveled the terrible roads of the Great Patriotic War under fire. You drained the cup of grief. You have learned the wisdom of life. So stand up straight and bar the way to a war that may destroy the land of your forebears and annihilate your sons!

We appeal to the clergy, to all believers God gave all people the same right to life. And no one has a right to violate the main commandment in the Koran and the Bible—do not kill! Help cool hot heads and calm people's hearts. It is time to start the work of mutual reconciliation and forgiveness, remembering that it is not they who are to blame for this tragedy but the totalitarian Stalinist regime and politicians of various stamps. It is intolerable for ancient peoples to still be political hostages. You cannot live in the past. There has been enough destruction. You must revive and construct your homeland. And everyone needs peace to do that.

Peoples of Ingushetia and North Ossetia! We believe in your wisdom and common sense. We support you in the cause of reconciliation and construction.

[Signed] Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council deputies
[Dated] Moscow, 17 March 1994
No. 86-1 SF

Regional Affairs

Internal Affairs Troops Eyed for Use in Moscow

MK0504092094 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 5 Apr 94 p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Hold the Front Page!" rubric: "Troops To Be Brought Into Moscow"]

[Text] The city authorities intend to more broadly employ internal troops subunits to maintain public order in Moscow. MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS has come to learn that the Moscow government has asked the Internal Affairs Main Administration, by way of additional measures to enhance the maintenance of law and order in the capital, to work out in the shortest time possible regulations on the employment of Internal Troops subunits not only in patrolling streets but also in operations conducted by the militia.

A series of training sessions and exercises is planned for the immediate future to practice cooperation between the internal troops and militia in emergency situations.

The authorities do not draw a line there. They intend to go to Muscovites and residents of areas around Moscow in a bid to recruit another 6,000 people to the Moscow militia. As in the good old days, plans call for the selection of personnel from those proposed by work collectives, or for recruiting them from among men on active duty in the army and navy.

Team To Test Nuclear Waste Sites in Japan Sea

OW0404153594 Vladivostok Radiostantsiya Tikhiy Okean Maritime Network in Russian 0815 GMT 26 Mar 94

[By Oleg Padenko; from the "Pacific Ocean" program]

[Text] Vladivostok today has other problems. After our bothersome winter, the city needs cleaning and piles of rubbish removed before they become the cause of dreadful epidemics. This work has already begun and, as a matter of fact, quite intensively; however, the Sanepidstantsiya [Sanitation and Epidemiology Station] has not ceased to sound the alarm.

The problem of environmental pollution does not only concern the Vladivostok authorities. The Governments of Russia, South Korea, and Japan are quite concerned with the level of pollution in the Sea of Japan. The Russian scientific research vessel Okean, in the Japanese port of Niigata this week took aboard Korean and Japanese scientists, as well as an International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] expert, and sailed for the first radioactive waste dump site. Journalist Oleg Padenko will now give you a more detailed report.

[Begin recording] [Padenko] This expedition was approved by the governments of the three countries whose shores are washed by the Sea of Japan. It is also being financed by these three countries and that is why it is equipped with modern equipment that will be taken aboard the scientific ship Okean in the Japanese port of Niigata, and where the Russian scientists will be joined by researchers from Japan and South Korea. Besides them, representatives of the Pacific Fleet—the culprits of the piece—as well as an observer from the IAEA will also take part in the research voyage. The reason for the expedition is known: the dumping of low radioactivity liquid wastes into the Sea of Japan by the Pacific Fleet in October last year, although our maritime neighbors have also solved such problems near their shores in the same way.

As was clarified later, our Navy dumped the polluted water legally, that is, with the permission of the Russian Ecology Ministry and in compliance with IAEA requirements. The radioactive waste dumping operation was observed by the environmental organization's vessel, Greenpeace. However, as they say, every cloud has a silver lining, since it served to make everyone once more raise the quite urgent and more-than-just-topical issue of environmental protection. And here, it is important to unite the efforts of all the sides concerned. The first step has been taken. To work out recommendations, the joint expedition aboard the Okean will collect samples of the sea bottom, take water samples at various depths, and carry out a quick analysis using a full range of tests to detect pollution in the sea. Well, what do the scientists expect from this joint work? Yuriy Nikolayevich Volkov, expedition leader and director of the Far East Hydrometeorological Institute, explains.

[Volkov] I am hoping for positive results from this expedition. That is, that the radioactivity level will be no higher than normal background levels; however, the experiment will give us the final proof.

[Padenko] It is apparent that you have already mixed somewhat with your foreign colleagues, namely the South Korean and Japanese specialists; tell us what do they have to say on this matter? What is their opinion about this voyage and the problem in general?

[Volkov] They recognize that the problem is an important one and that this expedition must basically reassure the public that the sea is ecologically clean so that ordinary folk, who watched television and saw the dumping of the liquid radioactive waste, would not be afraid to buy fish—because it is on household tables daily. Nevertheless, knowing how the dumping was done

and what level of radioactivity there was, I and, of course, the other scientists also think that there are no consequences.

[Padenko] Nevertheless, the expedition is still going?

[Volkov] Of course, all this is being done at the highest level and in compliance with international standards, so that all the people understand that generally there is no danger to people's health. Although, I reiterate that it is better not to dump in the first place, so that we will not have to investigate later. [end recording]

Secret Town Sverdlovsk-44 Renamed Novouralsk

LD0404085194

[Editorial Report] Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian at 0217 GMT on 4 April carries a report by correspondent Yan Khutaranskiy stating that Sverdlovsk-44, a previously secret town in the middle Urals, is to be renamed Novouralsk. Instead of defense industry products, the town has gone over to supplying goods for nuclear power stations at home and abroad. In an interview, Leonid Penskikh, head of the town's administration, complained that bureaucrats forced this name on the town's residents who wanted it to be called Verkhnevinsk as it is located on the river Neva. He described the communal and sports facilities currently being built in the town and stressed that all the enterprises in the town are still operating.

Nemtsov on Replacement of Nizhniy Novgorod Mayor

PM0404131694 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Apr 94 First Edition p 2

[Correspondent Andrey Shishov report: "Nizhniy Novgorod Gets New Mayor"]

[Text] Nizhniy Novgorod—The new acting head of Nizhniy Novgorod City Administration has been named as Ivan Sklyarov, the kray's vice governor. The directive appointing him was signed by Boris Nemtsov.

Sklyarov replaces Dmitriy Bednyakov, whom President B. Yeltsin relieved of his duties for refusing to implement Nemtsov's instruction to cancel the referendum on Nizhniy Novgorod's draft charter, which, in the governor's opinion, led to the destabilization of the situation in the city and oblast and discredited the organs of power.

Nemtsov stated at a press conference that it had become impossible to work with Bednyakov. There must be strict discipline in the executive organs of power. Asked by ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA about a threat to democracy in Nizhniy Novgorod Oblast, the governor stressed that a threat exists, but to order and stability rather than democracy. It is necessary, Nemtsov added, to give comprehensive support to the kray's recently elected representative organs of power, above all the Oblast Legislative Assembly, in which the main attributes of a rule-of-law democratic society must be improved.

The head of Nizhniy Novgorod Administration also noted the need to hold a future election of the head of the self-governing entity of Nizhniy Novgorod in which, of course, Bednyakov can participate. According to Nemtsov, he is prepared to help find a job for Nizhniy Novgorod's former leader if Bednyakov approaches him with such a request.

Sklyarov, the new mayor of Nizhniy Novgorod, stressed that there will be no cardinal change in the policy of reforms, but adjustments will be made to them. It is necessary to restore everyday services to the population, which were destroyed during privatization. He added that he will be appearing regularly on television and will generally seek wider contacts with the press.

State of Emergency in Parts of Ingushetia, Ossetia

LD0404143394 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1325 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Apr—Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed an edict today "On introducing a state of emergency on parts of the territory of the Republic of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic." The edict has been adopted in connection with the continuing tension in a number of rayons in both republics, terrorist and violent incidents that have taken place there, and a necessity to implement the presidential edict of 13 December 1993 "On the procedure for the repatriation of forced migrants on the territory of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic".

The decree is valid from the moment of signing. ITAR-TASS has learned about it from the press service of the Russian president.

Yeltsin Edict on Emergency

LD0404195994 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1810 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Moscow, 4 Apr (ITAR-TASS)—The press service of the Russian Federation president has sent ITAR-TASS the text of Boris Yeltsin's edict "On the Introduction of a State of Emergency on some territories of the Republic of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic". The following is its full text:

In connection with the continuing tense situation in a number of rayons of the Republic of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic, the incidence of acts of terrorism and violence, and the necessity of ensuring the implementation of the Russian Federation president's edict dated 13 December 1993 No. 2131 "On the Procedure for the Return to the Places of their Permanent Abode of Refugees and Displaced Persons on the Territories of the Republic of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic,"

and the implementation of a range of measures to eliminate the armed conflict, endorsed by a decision of the Russian Federation Government dated 9 March 1994 No. 185; in connection with requests by the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of North Ossetia and the president of the Ingush Republic concerning the necessity for federal assistance to prevent terrorist acts, protect the rights of citizens and national economy facilities; in order to safeguard state and public security, and also in accordance with Article 88 of the Russian Federation constitution, the Russian Federation law "On the State of Emergency," and the Russian Federation law "On Security" I herewith decide:

1. From 1400 hours on 31 March 1994, the state of emergency should be revoked on the territories of Mozdokskiy rayon and Prigorodnyy rayon and the adjacent localities in the Republic of North Ossetia and in Malgobekskiy and Nazranovskiy rayons in the Ingush Republic.

2. A state of emergency should be introduced from 1400 hours on 31 March 1994 until 1400 hours on 31 May 1994, in line with the Russian Federation law "On the State of Emergency" (Article 4.9), on the territories of:

The Republic of North Ossetia
Mozdokskiy rayon (towns: Mozdok, Kalinina, Terskaya, Oktyabrskoye, Kievskoye, Kizlyar, Razdolnoye, Vinogradnoye, Nizhniy Malgobek, Sukhotskoye, Khurikau, Kusovo, and Komarovo); Provoberezhniy rayon (towns: Staryy Batakoyurt, Zilga, and Olginskoye, and Vladikavkaz airport); Prigorodnyy rayon (towns: Mayskiy, Chermen, Komagaron, Tarskoye, Kurtat, Dachnoye, and Dongaron); and the city of Vladikavkaz (towns: Yuzhnyy, Chernorechenskoye, Terk, Balta, Chmi, Nizhniy Lars, Verkhniy Lars, Ezmi, and Kartsa);
Ingush Republic
Malgobekskiy and Nazranovskiy rayons.

3. The Provisional Administration should be kept as a special form of government while the state of emergency is in force, on the territories of Mozdokskiy rayon, Prigorodnyy rayon, and adjacent localities in the Republic of North Ossetia, and in Molgobekskiy and Nazranovskiy rayons in the Ingush Republic (hereinafter referred to as the Provisional Administration).

The Provisional Administration remains the legal successor of the provisional administration on the territories of Mozdokskiy rayon, Prigorodnyy rayon, and the neighboring areas of the Republic of North Ossetia, and of Malgobekskiy and Nazranovskiy rayons of the Ingush Republic, which was introduced as a special form of rule by the edict of the president of the Russian Federation No. 231 of 31 January 1994, entitled "On Extending the State of Emergency on the Territories of Mozdokskiy Rayon, Prigorodnyy Rayon, and the Neighboring Areas of the Republic of North Ossetia, and Malgobekskiy and Nazranovskiy Rayons of the Ingush Republic."

4. For the duration of the state of emergency:

—Special rules for entering and leaving the affected area and special rules for travelling around should be established, which include checking citizens' documents; in cases when information has been received suggesting that citizens may be in possession of weapons, the rules also provide for a search of their personal belongings, living quarters and vehicles;
—The safeguarding of public order and the protection of installations vital for the normal life of the population should be stepped up;
—The holding of meetings, rallies, street processions and demonstrations, and other mass actions in the area of the emergency situation should be banned;
—Strikes should be banned;
—Arms sales should be banned; firearms and other offensive weapons, ammunition, toxic and explosive substances should be confiscated from citizens;
—Those who violate public order and who are not resident in the locality in question should be deported to the place of their permanent residence or outside the territory under the state of emergency, at their own expense;
—Following a preliminary warning, the activities of political parties, public organizations, and mass movements hampering the normalization of the situation should be suspended;
—Preliminary censorship on coverage of the events in the zone of the state of emergency, involving the right of seizure of printed material, should be introduced;
—Depending on the circumstances, a curfew should be imposed, in other words, citizens are prohibited to remain on the streets and in other public places unless they have been supplied with special passes and documents proving their identity, at the established time of the day or night.

5. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, the Federal Counterintelligence Services of the Russian Federation, and Defense Ministry forces of the Russian Federation attached to the provisional administration should take measures to prevent armed clashes between the opposing sides, to ensure the protection and safety of citizens, and to ensure absolute compliance with the state of emergency procedures.

6. The joint forces of the Defense Ministry of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, the Federal Counterintelligence Services of the Russian Federation, and the Federal Border Services—the Main Command of the Border Troops of the Russian Federation—and the Federal Agency for Government Liaison and Information under the president of the Russian Federation, which are attached to the provisional administration, should be made subordinate in an operational sense to the head of the provisional administration.

7. It should be established that the instructions and orders of the provisional administration are binding for the execution of their duties by the bodies of executive power, the internal affairs bodies, the counterintelligence

bodies, troop units, enterprises, organizations and establishments, and also officials and citizens on the territory where the state of emergency is in operation.

8. The Government of the Russian Federation:

—Should ensure that the measures connected with the regime of the state of emergency, including financing, are implemented;
—Should finance in good time and in full the measures to resolve comprehensively the problem of refugees and displaced persons;
—Should ensure the continuation of talks to settle the conflict;
—Should continue, through the provisional administration, to extend financial and economic assistance to the Republic of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic in keeping with federal programs; the procedure for the extension of the aforementioned assistance is dependent on the progress of the negotiating process between these republics and the implementation by them of measures to have the conflict resolved;
—Should adopt decisions to make the armed formations of the Republic of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic correspond with their prescribed strength and also to reduce the issue of arms and combat equipment to the bodies of the ministries of internal affairs and directorates of counterintelligence of the Republic of North Ossetia and the Ingush Republic;
—Should in April 1994 hear the accounts of the government of the Republic of North Ossetia and the government of the Ingush Republic on the work done to implement the edict of the president of the Russian Federation dated 13 December 1993 No. 2131.

This edict comes into force upon signing. In accordance with Article 102 of the constitution of the Russian Federation, this edict is to be forwarded to the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly to be endorsed.

President of the Russian Federation B. Yeltsin.
Moscow, Kremlin, 4 April 1994 No. 657

North Ossetian Leader Pleased

LD0404133894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1056 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] North Ossetian President Akhsarbek Galazov was pleased with the first round of Ossetian-Ingush talks that were held in the Kabardino-Balkarian capital Nalchik last weekend. He said in an Interfax interview that the talks had been held in a business-like atmosphere and that the two sides agree on an agenda and on the main lines of the final document

Galazov said that when the talks resumed in Nalchik on April 13 and 14 the two sided will concentrate on the principles, specific steps and deadlines for carrying through the Russian president's decree on return of the refugees and displaced persons to their homes which they had been forced to leave during the fall 1992 hostilities.

Galazov added that the joint statement on mass media and the appeal to the people of Ingushetia and North Ossetia denouncing terrorism and hostage taking were virtually the first documents ever signed by presidents of two Russian Federation's members engaged in a conflict.

At a news conference at the end of the talks, Vladimir Lozovoi, head of the provisional administration in North Ossetia and Ingushetia, emphasized the importance of the fact that a final agenda had been adopted at the end of two days of discussion because the agenda "built in the principles, deadlines and steps to implement the Russian president's decree" while "the draft of the final document which was accepted on the whole recognizes the positions of the two sides." Lozovoi emphasized the peace brokering efforts made by Kabardino- Balkarian President Valery Kokov.

For his part, Kokov emphasized that the origins of the Ossetian- Ingush conflict were so deep-rooted that the conflict could not be resolved overnight.

Vyacheslav Mikhailov, Russian deputy minister of nationalities and regional policy, said at the news conference he was confident a treaty between North Ossetia and Ingushetia would be signed.

Ingush President Assesses Talks

LD0404133594 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1056 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Ingushi President Ruslan Aushev assessed with restraint the Ossetian-Ingushi summit in Nalchik last weekend. The talks continue and it is premature to speak about their results, he told Interfax Monday.

Deputy Russian Minister for Nationalities and Regional Policies, Vyacheslav Mikhailov, who took part in the talks, believes that the main result is in the recognition by both sides of the fact of human rights violations in the zone of the Ossetian-Ingushi conflict. In an interview with Interfax he said that the first step towards the solution of the problem was made.

Currently Aushev and President Akhsarbek Galazov of North Ossetia arrived in Moscow where the State Duma on Monday debates the draft address to the leaders of both neighboring republics due to the situation in the region.

Further Reportage on Local Elections

Novosibirsk Sets New Date

944F0527A Novosibirsk SOVETSKAYA SIBIR in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 1

[Unattributed Article: "Not the End Yet"]

[Text] Deputy registration was conducted at the regular meeting of the oblast electoral commission for elections to the oblast soviet of deputies. The entire list of 34 deputies was considered and officially registered.

The next issue on the agenda was to schedule the dates for the elections in those 15 districts where they had not been held. Commission members had various proposals. Having weighed all the pros and cons, they decided upon the date of 30 October of this year. More candidates will be nominated, signatures will be collected, and there will be registration. Campaigning will begin on 1 October.

The district commissions could possible have the same members; the statute on elections allows this. When solving the problem of district commissions all circumstances will be taken into account. It cannot be ruled out that the composition of several of them will be changed.

Complaints from candidates and their authorized agents (not a single voter sent a written complaint to the commission) received after the election were considered at the meeting. A number of complaints were dismissed since they had already been thoroughly discussed. On that day members of the commission began to check out several statements. In the opinion of those who were asked, with respect to one or two districts the oblast electoral commission might possibly have to make an additional decision, that is, the elections could be declared null and void.

Novosibirsk Results Viewed

944F0527C Novosibirsk SOVETSKAYA SIBIR in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 1

[Article by A. Zharinov: "We Have 34 Deputies, We Shall Elect the Rest in the Fall"]

[Text] The overall results of the elections to the Novosibirsk Oblast Soviet of Deputies were made public by the chairman of the oblast electoral commission, L.N. Ustinova, on Wednesday at a news conference.

She reminded the journalists that 202 candidates had been registered for 49 deputy positions. On 27 March 662,996 voters, or 33.6 percent of those included on the lists, expressed their attitude toward the contenders for the deputy mandate. In the rayons of the oblast 47 percent of the voters voted, and in the cities under oblast jurisdiction (Berdsk, Iskitim, Kuybyshev, Tatarsk, and Barabinsk)—31.6 percent, including Novosibirsk—25.1 percent.

The overall number of invalid ballots (incorrectly filled out, damaged, etc.) was 54,697. A total of 69,113 people voted against all the candidates.

Where were the elections held and who earned the confidence of the voters? The elections were declared to have been conducted in 34 single-mandate districts. These were mainly rural districts. In 15 districts of Novosibirsk the elections were not held because of low voter turnout. Let us mention these districts: Nos. 22 and 25 (Dzerzhinskiy Rayon), No. 28 (Zheleznodorozhnyy Rayon), No. 33 (Kalininskiy Rayon), Nos. 35, 36, and 37 (Kirovskiy Rayon), Nos. 38, 39, 40, 41, and 49 (Leninskiy Rayon), Nos. 42 and 44 (Oktyabrskiy Rayon), and No. 47 (Sovetskiy Rayon). Repeat elections were scheduled for 30 October in these rayons.

And so, the new representative power in the oblast is embodied by 34 deputies so far. What is the social, political, and occupational portrait of the new deputy corps? They are mature people who have learned from life's experience. As can be seen from an official questionnaire, they are "up to 55 years of age." Undoubtedly there are young ones as well. But the fact that altogether they are "up to 55" inspires hope and promise. Incidentally, of those who were elected, 11 are former people's deputies of the oblast soviet, which creates continuity in the activity of the representative organ.

The elections confirmed the misgivings on the part of political parties and public movements concerning the desire of representatives of executive structures to enter the oblast soviet. Twelve heads of local administrations became deputies (almost one- third of the deputy mandates) and, naturally, they will basically determine the fate of any particular resolution considered by the soviet. Added to them are 10 leaders of industrial and agricultural enterprises who will probably defend departmental interests in the soviet.

Among the other deputies, one represents public health and four—public education, VUZ's [higher educational institutions], and scientific institutions. Notice that there is not a single worker, kolkhoz worker, or construction worker here. Just as there is not a single specialist with a higher legal education or representative of culture or business. This could cause some harm to the composition of the deputy corps, which may not represent the interests of many social groups. Suffice it to say that among the 34 deputies there is only one woman—chief engineer of the Suzunskaya Furniture Factory, V. Usova. There were considerably more of them in the last soviet.

And, finally, about the political preferences of the voters. Only three representatives of political parties and movements earned deputy mandates: two (V. Kuznetsov and V. Karpov)—from the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation], and one (N. Krasnikov)—from Russia's Choice. It turns out that it makes no difference to the voter whether the candidate is "red" or "white." As long as he is a good person.

But still the main thing should be emphasized: Elections to the oblast soviet of deputies did take place. And in keeping with the law on the kray and oblast soviets, the kray and oblast administration: "The soviet shall function if two-thirds of the deputies have been elected to it." We have that number of deputies and they can hold a session at which they will elect a chairman and a deputy, working organs, and commissions. Apparently this will take place in the near future.

More detailed information about the results of the voting and the elected deputies will be published in the next few issues of SOVETSKAYA SIBIR.

Decree on Tatarstan Elections

944F0534A Kazan IZVESTIYA TATARSTANA in Russian 2 Apr 94 p 1

["Decree of the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission: On Establishment of the Results of the Election of Deputies to the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation for Tatarstan's Two-Seat Electoral District No. 16"]

[Text] On 13 March 1994, the election of deputies to the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation was held for Tatarstan's Two-Seat Electoral District No. 16.

Based on the official report of the district electoral commission for Tatarstan's Two-Seat Electoral District No. 16 on the election of deputies to the Council of the Federation and in accordance with Article 32 of the Statute on Elections of Deputies of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation in 1993, the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission has determined that the following individuals have been elected as the result of the election of deputies to the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation for Tatarstan's Dual-Seat Electoral District No. 16: **Farid Khayrullovich Mukhametshin**, born 1947, Tatar, higher education, not affiliated with a party, and **Mintimer Sharipovich Shaymiyev**, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tatarstan, born 1937, Tatar, higher education, not affiliated with a party, president of the Republic of Tatarstan.

The Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Tatarstan **decrees:**

1. That the election of Farid Khayrullovich Mukhametshin and Mintimer Sharipovich Shaymiyev as deputies to the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation from Tatarstan's Two-Seat Electoral District No. 16 is valid.

2. That this decree will be published in the press.

[Signed] N.T. RYABOV, chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation

I.V. GALUSHKO, secretary of the Central Electoral Commission of the Russian Federation
Moscow, 25 March 1994

Magadan Fails To Elect Deputies Quota

OW0404161194 Vladivostok Radiostantsiya Tikhiy Okean Maritime Network in Russian 0715 GMT 28 Mar 94

[From the "Pacific Ocean" Program]

[Text] Elections were held in Magadan Oblast yesterday. This is what our correspondent Gennadiy Ovchinnikov reports: According to the latest information, 27.2 percent of registered voters in Magadan Oblast took part in the voting, though elections were held in only 10 of the 17 electoral districts. Thus, only one more deputy is required to make up the minimum necessary for the Oblast Duma to commence work.

Presently, the Oblast Electoral Commission is preparing a recommendation for the oblast administration of what to do in such a situation. Whether to conduct additional elections or to seek a solution in the Central Electoral Commission's contradictory and rather hazy edicts, statutes, directives, and interpretations, which allows a broad reading of the election results. The final decision is expected to be adopted within five days.

Irkutsk Results Validated

LD0504113894 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0221 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Khodiy]

[Text] Irkutsk, 5 Apr—All 45 deputies to the Irkutsk Oblast legislative assembly have been deemed elected following the 27 March elections. This was made possible only after the Russian Central Electoral Commission provided an explanation of the elections, according to which the ballot is deemed valid if no fewer than 25 percent of voters turn out.

Irkutsk used to have an electoral statute, according to which the figure—set by the Siberians themselves—was 35 percent. If that had been the case, the 27 March elections would have had to be declared invalid in several constituencies.

International Affairs

U.S. Issues Statement on Ukraine Sovereignty

PM0404171794 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Apr 94 p 3

[Report by Nikolay Semena: "Washington's Stance on Crimea"]

[Text] Simferopol—The U.S. Embassy in Kiev has issued a press statement saying that the "United States supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine."

When asked by your IZVESTIYA correspondent to inform journalists of the content of Bill Clinton's letter to the Crimean president, [Crimean President] Yu. Meshkov said: "I have not received U.S. President Clinton's consent to publish this kind of correspondence."

Inspection Team Finds Safety Faults at Chernobyl

LD0504105394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1017 GMT 5 Apr 94

[By UKRINFORM-TASS]

[Text] Kiev April 5 TASS—A group of international experts visited the Chernobyl nuclear power station to check whether facilities of the nuclear power station meet the required safety standards.

Taking part in the inspection, organised by the International Atomic Energy Agency, were experts from Spain, Sweden, Great britain, the United States, Russia and a representative of the coordinative secretariat for nuclear security under the European Union in Brussels.

Experts studied the construction of the station from the point of view of safety requirements, the level of its maintenance and detected a number of faults. Among factors affecting the safety of the nuclear power station, experts mentioned the exodus of highly-qualified personnel, the shortage of modern equipment and spare parts and a technical condition of the "ukritie" (cover) installation covering the damaged reactor of the fourth block.

IAEA director, Hans Bliks, pointed out that the Chernobyl nuclear power station does not meet safety standards and suggested that the countries concerned convene a conference to work out measures to improve the condition of the Chernobyl nuclear station. "The IAEA is prepared to render assistance in arranging this conference in Vienna in the second half of April," the IAEA director said.

Ukraine-PRC Economic Cooperation Agency Begins

LD0404201494 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] At today's Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers session, the Ukrainian-Chinese Intergovernmental Commission for Matters of Trade and Economic Cooperation held its first sitting. Its main task is to lay the new foundations in order for trade and economic relations between the two states to develop. This was stated by Valeriy Shmarov, deputy prime minister and head of the Ukrainian side in the commission.

The PRC machinery industry minister, who heads the commission's Chinese side, stressed the importance of his country developing trade and economic relations with Ukraine, which is China's long-standing and reliable partner.

Commission With China Views Trade, Cooperation

WS0404200994 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Today in Kiev, the Ukrainian-Chinese Intergovernmental Commission for Trade and Economic Cooperation held its first meeting. As Deputy Prime Minister Valeriy Shmarov, head of the Ukrainian half of the commission, noted, the body is supposed to establish new bases for developing bilateral trade and economic relations, as well as define the primary direction of cooperation. In the opinion of Valeriy Shmarov, the annual volume of trade between Ukraine and China could reach a level of $4 billion. Last year, it amounted to $670 million, with Ukrainian exports totalling $580 million.

Dnepropetrovsk Defense Potential Attracts Agents

PM0404171194 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 2 Apr 94 p 2

[Mikhail Odinets report: "More Spies"]

[Text] Kiev—Ukraine has recently become an attractive spot for the most diverse people from the furthest corners of the globe. It has been receiving tourists, businessmen, missionaries, merchants, intelligence agents....

The special services are particularly interested in the Dnepropetrovsk region, where Ukraine's considerable scientific and industrial defense potential is concentrated. In a published statement Lieutenant General V. Slobodyanyuka [name as transliterated], chief of the Dnepropetrovsk Oblast Security Service, states that last year staffers from the Ukrainian Security Service administration monitored the unofficial presence in the region of more than 30 career foreign intelligence agents under different covers, as well as a large number of people suspected of involvement with foreign special services.

Attempts to set up two [intelligence-gathering] stations in the oblast were blocked by the counterintelligence department. Hostile operations on the part of a number of European countries, as well as the United States, China, and Near East countries have been uncovered. Foreign professionals, as the general put it, are making active use on the region's territory of the entire known arsenal of subversive intelligence work—from recruiting local citizens and gathering information through legal sources (the press) to the most sophisticated means of electronic espionage.

Russia Delivers Twice as Much Gas as Planned

LD0404130194 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1019 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Galina Nekrasova]

[Text] Lvov April 4 TASS—Russia delivers almost twice as much natural gas to Ukraine than planned, according to the concern Ukrgazprom's dispatcher service. The Russian deliveries since March ten include a 80 per cent compensation for the terminated supplies of the Turkmen natural gas. Turkmenistan suspended deliveries of natural gas to Ukraine until the latter repays its debt.

According to Ukrgazprom, Russia is keeping its word. On April 10, negotiations between Russia and Ukraine will continue to specify the schedule of mutual payments. The leadership of the Russian giant gas supplier Gasprom had set specific terms which have not been disclosed to the public. But ITAR-TASS has learned that the Cabinet of Ministers in Kiev is now considering the possibility of meeting the demands of the chief supplier of natural gas.

Although Ukraine receives enough gas to meet its needs at present, Ukrgasprom reports that the consumption of natural gas in the republic has dwindled. This is due not only to the coming of warm spring but also to the measures taken by the government to save energy resources.

Nonetheless, the temporary stabilisation of gas deliveries is not durable. The main reason is the lack of money to pay for the already consumed energy resources, and the huge internal debt owed by Ukrainian consumers to the domestic suppliers.

Failure To Join NPT Hampers Cooperation With NASA

WS0104150994 Lvov POST-POSTUP in Ukrainian 25-31 Mar 94 p B1

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Following a visit by U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry and NASA specialists to Ukraine, talks between the two countries' space agencies are expected to intensify in the near future.

Volodymyr Horbulin, director general of the National Space Agency of Ukraine [NKAU], believes, however, that the talks between NKAU and NASA will not concern cooperation in the production of rockets. The reason behind this is Ukraine's refusal to join the Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT]. Volodymyr Horbulin noted that Ukraine, which has unique rocket-building technologies, having refused to sign the NPT, has wasted one year, during which Russia has managed to establish comprehensive cooperation in the space industry with the United States.

NKAU and the Ministry of External Economic Relations are currently making considerable efforts to encourage Ukraine's joining the NPT.

During upcoming talks with NASA, NKAU will discuss the possibility of cooperation in conducting remote-controlled probes of earth from space and developing satellite telecommunication systems. The Ukrainian side is going to offer NASA a radar to study the ocean's surface, developed by the Pivdenne design bureau, and technology for electric welding and construction assembling in space, developed by the Paton Institute.

With the collapse of the USSR, Ukraine's space industry has suffered considerable losses such as, for example, the fact that the Pivdenne design bureau has lost 3,000 employees over the last two years. Volodymyr Horbulin refused to reveal how many people are currently employed by the Pivdenne design bureau, stating only that the number of people who have left the bureau "is huge." The director general of NKAU, however, emphasized that all the specialists who left the bureau are still working in Ukraine.

Ukraine Stops Broadcasting Russian Programs

LD0104213994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1820 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] Radio broadcasting to Ukraine of programs by the radio stations Mayak, Rossiya-1 and Radio Moscow was stopped today from 15:00.

Well-informed sources from the Ukrainian Communications Ministry suggested in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine that this was due to Russia's debt for relaying of the radio programs.

The same sources said the debt of Russia amounted to 2.3 Bn rubles.

The Ukrainian Radio and TV Company's Vice President, Aleksey Karpenko, sent a telegram to Moscow today saying that the broadcasting would not be renewed until the debt was paid.

National Affairs

Donetsk Election Results Reported

944K1006A Donetsk DONETSK AKTSENT in Russian 1 Apr 94 p 1

[Article by Deputy Chief Editor L. Kozin: "The Communists Have Won. And This Is No April Fool's Day Hoax"]

[Text] The Supreme Council elections were, generally, conducted six weeks ago by the newspaper AKTSENT; 73.14 percent of the participants in the "I and the Elections" poll expressed an intention to take part in the ballot. The turnout on 27 March was 73 percent.

Kiev sociologists from the Democratic Initiatives center, who conducted a poll at the start of March, maintain that 18 percent of the participants supported capitalist relationships in Ukraine. The responses of the participants in our poll, on the other hand (just 2 percent of them see capitalism as the country's future), were borne out by the election results. Among the seven people's deputies elected in the first round, four are communists. Among the 81 candidates who have gone on to the second round, there are 32 members of the Communist Party, six members of the Socialist Party, four of the Labor Party, two of the Ukraine Citizens' Congress, one of the Peasant Party, and one of the Liberal Party. Among those who will be competing for the seat of deputy is a sizable number of red directors and whose who, while not formally members of any party of an anticapitalist focus, have, nonetheless, shown themselves to be, in fact, their fellow travelers. The colossal success of the extreme left and left-wing forces has confirmed the clear orientation of the workers and peasants of the oblast toward socialism. Impressive proof of this was the imposing victory of P. Simonenko, first secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee, who is today receiving the congratulations of his comrades. There were 45,430 votes for him in Krasnoarmeyskiy District 150 against fewer than half as many.

After we had published the results of the "I and the Elections" poll, the newspaper heard many accusations to the effect that we had laid it on thick, having declared in the headline that the oblast's working people said "Yes to socialism!" and "No to nationalism!" and that the mood in the proletarian stronghold was, in fact, different. But we were merely strictly recording at that time the opinions expressed by the electorate, which were subsequently borne out on 27 March.

As anticipated, candidates of a nationalist persuasion failed totally. In Leninskiy Electoral District 114, Oleynik, the representative of these forces, mustered 707 votes (against 51,083), and the results achieved in this district by Biletskiy—2,895 (against 48,895)—were not much better. As a counterweight to them, the communist Shapovalov won the affections of 12,693 voters of District 114, and Deputy Prime Minister Landik was credited with even more votes—22,354. Both have gone on to the second round. In Kievskiy District 110, some 1,458 votes were cast for Talymonchuk, representative of the nationalist forces, whereas 21,218 were cast for Buyko, leader of the oblast's communists, and 20,490 for acting Prime Minister Zvyahilskyy. In Budennovskiy District 107, a palpable defeat was sustained by Ratnikova, only 2,343 votes were cast for her. V. Shcherban, deputy chairman of the city council executive committee, amassed 23,400 votes here, and Communist Party member Kolombet, 5,064. The nationalists were unable to offer their political opponents any in any way serious competition in other districts either. If these figures are not astonishing, Charodeyev's defeat in Donetsk's Proletarskiy District 116 was sensational. It is striking that in this part of Ukraine Charodeyev's views are shared by many people (to which the results of an oblast consultative poll conducted on the same day as the elections point also), but the personality of the individual professing such views was not attractive to many people. Some 6,741 votes were cast for him. For Fedorenko and Ampilogov, who have moved into the second round, 15,953 and 11,795 respectively.

A defeat comparable, perhaps, only to a political coma was sustained by the Liberal Party. One of its leaders, Tokarev, had forecast in mid-February (precisely at the time AKTSENT was conducting its poll) that his party "could be victorious in no fewer than 35 districts" out of the 47. Seventeen persons had been nominated as party candidates, and what is more, 46 members of the Liberal Party had been registered as candidates, according to the member of the leadership of the LPU [Liberal Party of Ukraine]. The people and forces that created this party drove the LPU into a corner by having called it liberal. On the one hand it cannot garner a harvest of votes from the thin, genuinely liberal and democratic stratum of society inasmuch as this stratum has a dubious attitude toward the sincerity of yesterday's party and Communist Youth League nomenklatura, which is the backbone of the party leadership. On the other, for the communist majority of the electorate and for this region in general the very word "liberal" (even if authentic) is an abusive, "bourgeois" word. The absence of a base for a growth of its influence plus the absence of teams operating in modern fashion, inexpressive election programs, and a number of other aspects led to just one person for the entire oblast getting through to the second round from the ranks of "pure" members of the LPU. It is becoming obvious that the sole correct move made by the leadership of the LPU prior to the elections on 27 March was the non-nomination of its leader as a candidate.

So the first round is behind us. The second lies ahead. The East is unfurling the red banners. The West is hoisting the yellow and blue banners even higher. A three-color rainbow hangs over Ukraine. There are no other colors in this country, it seems.

Further on Regional Election Results

Rural Kharkiv Oblast

944K0998A Lviv POST-INFORM in Ukrainian 30 Mar 94 p 1

["Election Results in the Rural Districts of Kharkiv Oblast"]

[Text] No deputies were elected in any of Kharkiv Oblast's rural electoral districts on 27 March.

The following will stand for election in the second round: in Izyum electoral district [e.d.] No. 380—Petro Didyk, chairman of the city council, and Viktor Ustymenko, docent of the Academy of Law (Kharkiv); in Kupyansk e.d. No. 381—Oleksandr Chupakhin, member of the Socialist Party of Ukraine [SPU] (supported by the Kharkiv Business Congress, and Volodymyr Vyunyk, correspondent of the newspaper *Panorama* (supported by the National Democrats); in Lozova e.d. No. 382—Mykola Krasyuk (CPU), a teacher, and Mykola Bychenko (SPU), state farm director (Volodymyr Tyahlo, chairman of the oblast council, was defeated in this district); in Lyubotyn e.d. No. 383—Viktor Suslov, presidential counsellor, and Viktor Salnykov (CPU), university lecturer; in Pervomaysk e.d. No. 384—Volodymyr Pustovoytovskyy (Interregional Reform Bloc [MBR]), director of the ZBK plant, and Volodymyr Karyuk (SPU), deputy collective farm chairman; in Chuhuyiv e.d. No. 385—Yuriy Marchuk, director of the technical school, and Bronislav Raykovskyy (CPU), a lawyer (Mykola Mykhalchenko, director of a presidential service, was defeated in this district); in Balakliya e.d. No. 386—Valentyna Hoshovska, CPU member, deputy chairman of the rayon state administration, and head of the local Prosvita [Enlightenment] Society, and Mykhaylo Karnaukhov, chairman of the rayon organization of Rukh; Bohodukhiv e.d. No. 387—People's Deputy of Ukraine Vladlen Karasyk, director of the oblast sugar association, and People's Judge Valeriy Zakopaylo (supported by Rukh); in Valky e.d. No. 388—Valentyna Romanenko, editor of the rayon newspaper (representative of the left bloc), and Borys Olkhovskyy, docent of the Academy of Law (Kharkiv); in Vovchansk e.d. No. 389—Anatoliy Kosolapov, chairman of the Pershotravneve Association of Agricultural Enterprises, and Volodymyr Firsov (CPU); in Derhachi e.d. No. 390—eople's Deputy of Ukraine Oleksiy Bandurka, chief of the oblast administration of internal affairs, and Hryhoriy Varchenko (member of the Democratic Party of Ukraine [DemPU], supported by the Spravedlyvist [Justice] national-democratic bloc), a teacher; in Zmiyiv e.d. No. 391—Oleksiy Berezhnyy, collective farm chairman, and Petro Khalin (CPU); in Krasnohrad e.d. No. 392—Oleksandr Kudrevych, collective farm chairman, and Kateryna Levchenko (CPU); in Kharkiv e.d. No. 393—Vasyl Ivanov (CPU) and Volodymyr Yavorskyy, employee of the oblast state administration.

Rural Odessa Oblast

944K0998B Lviv POST-INFORM in Ukrainian 30 Mar 94 pp 2-3

["Election Results in Odessa Oblast"]

[Text] The only outright winner in the elections in Odessa Oblast's rural districts was Mykhaylo Myaskovskyy, first secretary of the oblast committee of the CPU (Velyka Mykhaylivka e.d. No. 310).

Those who will stand for election in the second round are: in Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyy e.d. No. 304—collective farm chairmen Pavlo Haltsev (pro-Communist people's deputy of Ukraine) and Vasyl Honchar; in Izmayil e.d. No. 305—Viktor Petrov, legal consultant of the rayon state administration, and Ivan Marynov, collective farm chairman; in Kotovsk e.d. No. 306—Petro Melnyk (CPU), collective farm chairman, and Serhiy Daryenko (Party of Democratic Rebirth of Ukraine [PDVU], department chief at the rayon hospital; in Morskyy e.d. No. 307—Anatoliy Baranovskyy, employee of the Illichivsk port and independent trade union chairman, and Vadym Plotkin, general director of the Ukrzovnishprom State Enterprise (Kiev); in Bilayivka e.d. No. 308—Ihor Antoshkin, chairman of the board of directors of the rayon consumer union, and Dmytro Popov, head of the rayon state administration; in Bolhrad e.d. No. 309—Vasyl Terzi, department chief at the rayon hospital, and Viktor Nemyrovskyy, CPU candidate; in Ivanivka e.d. No. 311—Lt. Gen. Volodymyr Hovorun, chief of the oblast's administration of internal affairs, and Mykola Zakharyev, collective farm chairman; in Kiliya e.d. No. 312—Ruslan Bodelan, chairman of the oblast council, and Dmytro Todorov, representative of the Bulgarian community; in Kominternivske e.d. No. 313—Valeriy Tytenko (chairman of the oblast committee of the Peasants' Party of Ukraine [SelPU]), collective farm chairman, and Dmytro Maksymyuk, deputy head of the Berezivka Rayon State Administration; in Savran e.d. No. 314—Vyacheslav Sokyrchak (CPU) and Viktor Skrypnychenko, economic adviser of the "International Economic Relations" organization; in Tarutyne e.d. No. 315—Dmytro Tsushko (Christian-Democratic Party of Ukraine [KhDPU]), state farm director, and Volodymyr Chemerys, collective farm chairman; in Tatarbunary e.d. No. 316—Hryhoriy Rychahov (Social Democratic Party of Ukraine [SDPU]) and Yosyp Sychuk, deputy chairman of the oblast state administration.

Sixty-four percent of the oblast's residents voted in the election.

Zaporizhzhya Oblast

944K0998C Lviv POST-INFORM in Ukrainian 30 Mar 94 p 3

["Election Results in Zaporizhzhya Oblast"]

[Text] Elections to the Supreme Council of Ukraine were held in Zaporizhzhya Oblast. Vyacheslav Byelskyy (CPU), collective farm chairman, won in Vasylivka e.d. No. 189.

Those who will stand for election in the second round are: in Zhovtnevyy e.d. No. 177—Yuriy Syzenko, first secretary of the oblast committee of the CPU, and Tamara Kudlay (independent), doctor of juridical sciences; in Zavodskyy e.d. No. 178—Leonid Anisimov (CPU) and Serhiy Kazanov, an independent candidate; in Komunarskyy e.d. No. 179—Serhiy Kuzmenko, candidate of the AvtoZAZ labor collective, and Oleksandr Yatsenko ("Ukrayina" bloc); in Levanevskyy e.d. No. 180—Mykola Taran (CPU) and Pavlo Fedotyuk, chief of SIZO [investigative isolation facilities]; in Leninskyy e.d. No. 181—Oleksandra Kuzhel ("My" [We] bloc, which unites PDVU members) and Mykhaylo Kalynyak ("Ukrayina" bloc); in Ordzhonikidzevskyy e.d. No. 181—Viktor Ponedilko (CPU) and Yevhen Kostenko ("My" bloc); in Khortytskyy e.d. No. 183—People's Deputy of Ukraine Serhiy Sobolyev ("My" bloc) and Yuriy Yerokhov, no party affiliation; in Shevchenkivskyy e.d. No. 184—Fedir Sunitsyn ("My" bloc) and People's Deputy of Ukraine Valeriy Izmalkov.

In Berdyansk e.d. No. 185—Yevhen Todorov, first secretary of the city committee of the CPU, and Serhiy Kharchenko, no party affiliation; in Melitopol city e.d. No. 186—Hryhoriy Oharkov and Vasyl Didur, both with no party affiliation; in Tokmak e.d. No. 187—Viktor Yurchenko SelPU) and Oleksandr Moroz, first secretary of the city committee of the CPU; in Berdyansk rayon e.d. No. 188—Industry Minister Oleksandr Holubchenko and Volodymyr Chichkov, collective farm chairman; in Zaporizhzhya rayon e.d. No. 190—Borys Oliynyk (CPU) and Oleksiy Spaskyy (SelPU); in Kamyanka-Dniprova e.d. No. 191—Hryhoriy Lunyov (SelPU) and Volodymyr Murashov (candidate of the Zaporizhzhya AES labor collective); in Melitopol rayon e.d. No. 192—Stepan Tkachenko, editor of the *Prosvita* newspaper, and Volodymyr Hrytchyn, collective farm chairman; in Polohy e.d. No. 183—Oleksandr Yermak, deputy director of counterintelligence of the Security Service of Ukraine, and Volodymyr Bruy; in Pryazovske e.d. No. 194—collective farm chairmen Oleksandr Bryt and Oleksandr Lysenko.

Kherson Oblast

944K0998D Lviv POST-INFORM in Ukrainian 30 Mar 94 p 3-4

["Election Results in Kherson Oblast"]

[Text] There will be a second round of voting in all the districts of Kherson Oblast. Those who will stand for election in this round are: in Dniprovskyy e.d. No. 394—Oleksandr Ilyashkevych (MBR) and Rayisa Trunova (SPU); in Komsomolskyy e.d. No. 395—Serhiy Kyrychenko (independent) and Viktor Kudryavtsev (CPU); in Suvorovskyy e.d. No. 396—Hryhoriy Nayda (CPU) and Oleksandr Tkalenko (Rukh, "Ukrayina" democratic alliance); in Kherson e.d. No. 397—Vasyl Talanov (CPU) and Oleksandr Servulya; in Nova Kakhovka e.d. No. 398—Yuliy Tatarchenko (Rukh, "Ukrayina" democratic alliance) and Anatoliy Bezuhlyy (CPU); in Velyka Lepetykha e.d. No. 399—Andriy Snihach (CPU) and Yuriy Bohutskyy; in Velyka Oleksandrivka e.d. No. 400—Serhiy Dovhan (SelPU) and Serhiy Heyko; in Hola Prystan e.d. No. 401—Yuriy Slasten and Oleksandr Protchenko (CPU); in Ivanivka e.d. No. 402—Stanislav Nikolayenko (SPU) and Oleksandr Opanasenko (Liberal Party of Ukraine [LPU]); in Chaplynka e.d. No. 403—Kateryna Samilyk (CPU) and Volodymyr Kramarenko; in Tsyurupynsk e.d. No. 404—Oleksandr Mayevskyy (CPU) and Volodymyr Karas.

Dnipropetrovsk

944K0998E Lviv POST-INFORM in Ukrainian 30 Mar 94 p 4

["Election Results in Dnipropetrovsk"]

[Text] Not a single deputy was elected in Dnipropetrovsk [Dnepropetrovsk]. Those who will stand for election in the second round are: in Amur-Nyzhnyodniprovskyy e.d. No. 73—Henadiy Balashov (representative of the Center for Political Initiatives) and People's Deputy of Ukraine Volodymyr Yatsuba; in Babushkinskyy e.d. No. 74—V. Simonov, president of the Fionit firm, and People's Deputy of Ukraine Volodymyr Pustovoytenko (MBR); in Vuzivskyy e.d. [no number given]—V. Borshchevskyy and A. Ryabchenko, head of the Municipal Bank; in Zhovtnevyy e.d. No. 76—S. Mykhaylenko (MBR), director of the Institute of Economic and Political Law, and L. Sokulska ("Ukrayina" bloc), a teacher; in Industrialnyy e.d. No. 77—L. Kostyuchenko (MBR), a businessman, and O. Tkachenko, head of the trade union committee of Ahropromtrans [Agricultural and Industrial Transport]; in Kirovskyy e.d. No. 78—A. Doroshenko ("Ukrayina" bloc), department head at the mechanical and mathematical technical school, and V. Merkulov, mayor of Dnipropetrovsk; in Krasnohvardiyskyy e.d. No. 79—V. Kucherenko, controller of the auditing department of the CPU, and R. Kartashov (Rukh), head of the administration of the Ministry of Education; in Leninskyy e.d. No. 80—A. Molot, director of the Universalservis firm, and V. Oshko (CPU), an engineer; in Petrovskyy e.d. No. 81—S. Chukmasov, deputy director of the pipe plant, and Ye. Pryalina ("Ukrayina" bloc); in Samarskyy e.d. No. 82—People's Deputy of Ukraine Serhiy Pravdenko, editor of *Holos Ukrayiny*, and V. Shypko, docent of the Metallurgical Academy.

Kryvyy Rih

944K0998F Lviv POST-INFORM in Ukrainian 30 Mar 94 p 4-5

["Election Results in Kryvyy Rih"]

[Text] There were no outright winners in the first round of elections to the Supreme Council of Ukraine in Kryvyy Rih. Those who will stand for election in the second round are: in Hirnytskyy e.d. No. 86—Larysa Chukhan (CPU), a journalist, and Viktor Myronov (independent candidate), director of the Higher Business School; in Dzerzhynskyy e.d. No. 87—Dmytro Stepanyuk, chairman of the rayon executive committee (23%), and Mykola Skyba, democratically-minded lecturer at the pedagogical institute; in Dovhyntsivskyi e.d. No. 88—Viktor Kocherha (Party of Labor) and Mykola Kolesnykov (CPU), a taxi driver; in Inhuletskyy e.d. No. 89—Volodymyr Melnyk, state farm director, and Volodymyr Pustovoytov, first secretary of the rayon committee of the CPU; in Kryvbasivskyy e.d. No. 90—Vadym Hurov (Party of Labor) and Valentyna Kryvda (Rukh); in Ternivskyy e.d. No. 91—democratically-minded People's Deputy of Ukraine Mykola Korobko, and Leonid Borodach, deputy chief of the city's administration of internal affairs; in Tsentralnyy e.d. No. 92—Deputy Prime Minister Vasyl Yevtukhov and Alla Pobocha (CPU), an engineer.

Kiev

944K0998G Lviv POST-INFORM in Ukrainian 30 Mar 94 pp 8-9

["Election Results in Kiev"]

[Text] Volodymyr Lanovyy, president of the Center for Market Relations, won in the Rusanivskyy e.d. No. 17 of the city of Kiev, and People's Deputy of Ukraine Serhiy Holovatyy, a well-known lawyer, won reelection in the Syretskyy e.d. No. 19 (both had the support of Rukh).

Those who will stand for election in the second round are: in Artemivskyy e.d. No. 1—Kostyantyn Morozov, vice-president of Ukrainian Popular Representation [Ukrayinske narodne posolstvo], former defense minister, and Viktor Medvedchuk, president of the Union of Lawyers of Ukraine; in Vatutinskyy e.d. No. 2—Vladyslav Lukash, senior scientific associate of the Orion Scientific-Research Institute, Rukh member, and Viktor Shcherbakov, deputy director of the Institute of Educational Research Systems of Ukraine (no party affiliation); in Haharinskyy e.d. No. 3—Taras Vintsyuk, department head at the Institute of Cybernetics of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (supported by Rukh), and Oleksandr Bondarenko, department chief at the Main Administration of Internal Affairs of Kiev; in Holosiyivskyy e.d. No. 4—Volodymyr Chemerys, associate of the Institute of Theoretical Physics of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and former head of Students' Union of Ukraine [SUS] (supported by the Congress of National Democratic Forces [KNDS], and Yaroslav Fedoryn, employee of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (supported by Rukh); in Darnytskyy e.d. No. 5—Viktor Rusakov, deputy director of the Darnytsya People's Privatization Fund, and Borys Synelnyk, scientific associate of the Institute of Cybernetics of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (supported by Rukh); in Zaliznychnyy e.d. No. 6—Volodymyr Budnikov, chief of the Zaliznychnyy Rayon Administration of Internal Affairs, and Mykola Rud, docent of the Kiev Technical University of Construction and Architecture (supported by Rukh); in Industrialnyy e.d. No. 7—Eduard Dobzhanskyy (Rukh), learned secretary of the Scientific-Research Institute of the Ministry of the Economy, and Nataliya Chanhuli (Ukrainian National Assembly [UNA], senior editor of the State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine; in Leninhradskyy e.d. No. 8—Volodymyr Bondarenko, director of the marketing department of the Kyyivnaftoprodukty [Kiev Oil Products] Firm, and Mykola Hrabar (Rukh), deputy to the Kiev council and a lawyer; in Obolonskyy e.d. No. 10—Dmytro Poyizd, a lawyer, and Dmytro Kostanchuk, power engineer (candidate of the conference of the Kiev city organization of Rukh); in Pecherskyy e.d. No. 11—Oleksandr Bozhko, director of the Naukovi tekhnolohiyi [Scientific Technologies] enterprise and deputy chairman of the Socialist Party of Ukraine, and Oleksandr Serhiyenko, student at the Institute of State Administration and Self-Government (supported by Rukh); in Pivdennyy e.d. No. 12—Kostyantyn Matviyenko, counsellor to the minister of culture, member of ukh, and Ivan Dankovych, first deputy chairman of the Kiev city state administration; in Podilskyy e.d. No. 13—Ivan Saliy, vice-president of the Academy of Original Ideas, and Oleh Danyleyko, manager of the Kiev agency of the Krym-Kontynental concern, member of the Ukrainian Republican Party [URP]; in Pryrichnyy e.d. No. 14—Vitaliy Karpenko, editor in chief of *Vechirniy Kyyiv*, and Oleh Kubakh, editor of the UNA newspaper *Ukrayinski obriyi*; in Promyslovyy e.d. No. 15—Volodymyr Solovey (UNA), electrical engineer, and Yuriy Orobets, project director at the Democratic Initiatives research and education center, URP member; in Svyatoshynskyy e.d. No. 18—People's Deputy of Ukraine Ivan Zayets (Rukh) and Oleksandr Bondarchuk, engineer at the Antonov Aviation Scientific-Technical Complex, CPU member; in Troyeshchynskyy e.d. No. 20—Viktor Melnyk, one of the leaders of the UNA, and Oleksandr Chornovolenko (Rukh), senior scientific associate of the Institute of Cybernetics of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; in Kharkivskyy e.d. No. 21—Vitaliy Kovalenko, employee of the Ministry of Agriculture (supported by Rukh), and Svitlana Li, economic consultant of the IPPMM of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (candidate of the URP conference); in Tsentralnyy e.d. No. 22—Oleh Hrachov (laboratory director at the TsDNTP [expansion not given] of the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (candidate of the conference of the Kiev city organization of the CPU), and Borys Andresyuk, presidential representative in the Starokyyivskyy district; in Chervonoarmiyskyy e.d. No. 23—Semen Yufa, chairman of the board of directors of the Merkuriy Consumer Company, and Environmental Protection Minister Yuriy Kostenko (Rukh).

Results of Elections in 27 Precincts Announced

LD0404132994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1056 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Runoff parliamentary elections were held in 34 Ukrainian precincts where over half of the voters came to the polling stations Saturday and Sunday.

In 27 precincts the voting results were made known to INTERFAX-Ukraine by the election commissions, 17 independents, six communists and one socialist were elected. The list of new deputies includes Agriculture Minister Yuriy Karasik and prime minister's adviser Viktor Suslov.

No candidate obtained more than half the votes in three of these precincts. Another round of elections will be held there.

Out of the 73 new members of parliament 18 are communists, three socialists, two are members of the Peasants' Party and 12 represent national democratic and national radical organizations. The remainder campaigned as independents.

Runoff elections will be held in the remaining 367 Ukrainian precincts on 9 and 10 April.

78 Election Candidates Gain Mandates

LD0404181094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1615 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Renewed elections to the Ukrainian parliament were held in 29 out of 33 electoral districts at the weekend. Latest counts indicate that the Communists and Socialists have won eight and two seats respectively with 19 other mandates going to independent candidates, officials of the district election commissions told INTERFAX-Ukraine.

However, a fresh election is to be held in the four remaining districts where none of the candidates has managed to get 50 percent of the vote needed to qualify.

By now 78 candidates have gained mandates to the new parliament, 20 of them Communists, four Socialists and two of the Peasants Party. This brings to 26 the number of left-wing candidates who have won seats to the country's new legislature compared with about 15 seats won by members of the nationalist groups. Other winners claim to be independent.

A new round of voting to the country's 450-seat parliament will be held in the remaining 368 districts on Saturday and Sunday.

Foreign Economic Relations, GATT Viewed

WS0404151594 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 29 Mar 94 p 3

[Interview with Serhiy Osyka, Ukrainian deputy minister for external economic relations, by Volodymyr Skachko; place and date not given: "Ukraine and the International Market: How To Build Bridges" — first paragraph is HOLOS UKRAYINY introduction published in italics; questions published in boldface]

[Text] Since the time when Ukraine was proclaimed an independent state and immediately recognized as such by Western states, the first delights caused by these events should have been replaced by more day-to-day concerns. However, it should be admitted that these problems have not diminished since then, but, as it seems, have only been aggravated. Nonetheless, according to competent people, possibilities for the normalization of Ukraine's external economic relations have not yet been exhausted. We have asked Serhiy Osyka, Ukraine's deputy minister for external economic relations, to tell us about current economic relations between Ukraine and the West.

[Osyka] Let us look at things objectively—many problems facing Ukraine's gaining a strong foothold in Western markets are caused not by economic factors, but by political ones.

I will give only one example, but an exponential one. If one were to analyze the course of events connected with the problem of assets and liabilities of the former Soviet Union, one may discern an essential unbalance between Western countries' positions on this issue.

This past year's decision by the Paris Club to defer the debts of the former USSR, in general, took into account only Russia's interests. The point is that the assets of the former USSR are still working only for Russia. However, these assets belonged formerly to all republics of the Union, including Ukraine. To assess more clearly how this affects our state interests, let us recall that these assets include the debt obligations of many countries of the former USSR (amounting to almost $100 billion), which may be used as stocks and bonds on international share markets; they also include a great deal of immovable property abroad, as well as know-how and technology, primarily in the branch of precision machine building; lastly, they include trademarks and brands, which bring in many millions [currency not specified] in income.

A few more concrete examples.

As a result of Ukraine's undergoing the routine of controls over space technologies, according to many politicians, the situation has become inequitable. A package of Russian agreements related to the joining of an international space program are being implemented to a large extent (practically 80 percent) by Ukrainian industry. First of all, these are such systems as "Zenith" and "Tsyklon," which are being produced in Ukraine.

The second example: The Plodimport foreign trade association of the former USSR has automatically become Russia's foreign trade association. However, at one time in the past, the Plodimport production association sold the exclusive rights to use its trademark to the Pepsico company for a period of 20 years. This is an asset, too.

Stolichnaya vodka has been produced with the significant participation of Ukrainian enterprises. Its trademark is one of the assets of the former USSR, as well. By now, this trademark is used by Russia only—this means

that we are cut off from this particular export market. However, annual profits for this export are measured in the billions.

One more example: In 1992, President Yeltsin authorized sales of the Topaz-2 satellite system. The world was astonished by both this resolution and the ridiculously low asking price. Notwithstanding the fact that all the enterprises of the Topaz association are located in Ukraine, the Paris Club regarded their production as an asset of the former USSR. In this way, Ukraine is being cut off from markets which provide profits of many billions for goods and technology produced by generations of Ukrainian citizens.

These are very essential limitations placed on the markets, from which Ukraine could draw money for its own work, instead of resolving its financial problems solely by means of credit.

Thus, as you see, the worsening of the country's internal situation is connected with rather essential international factors, even though I do not exclude such reasons for our crisis as our legislative mistakes and many other problems which have been widely reported. However, without overcoming these negative external political factors, no resolute actions by the government and no new laws, on their own, will help us resolve this heap of problems.

[Skachko] Serhiy Hryhorovych, these reasons, of which you has just spoken, cannot be easily managed. However, there are various internal problems in Ukraine, which are connected with exports and imports, are there not?

[Osyka] One of the principal factors influencing the financial sphere and the stability of hard currency exchange rates is the following: The export capacity [eksportoyemnost] of Ukrainian industry and economy is much lower than our import capacity. Up to 1991, as you know, this problem was resolved at the expense of the USSR's export capacity.

Our exports today are only a part of Ukraine's full export potential. They are practically incapable of securing our need for hard currency to upkeep the stable exchange rate of our currency; in addition, they secure our import needs only to the lowest degree, even in their most vital part. Ukraine's traditional exports are ferrous metals, chemical products, textile fabrics, and certain other goods. However, these very exports are faced with a sharp increase in production costs, which brings practically to naught the hard currency profitability of these products.

For instance, fertilizer. The production of one tonne of carbimide or ammonia requires about one tonne of gas. Gas is priced at least at $65-70 per tonne, while carbimide is sold, depending on the season, at $75-100 per tonne. It is quite obvious that this product is becoming unprofitable. At the very best, output can be equal to input. Taking into account the energy-consuming production of metals (gas and coke are also involved), we see that the picture is much the same.

Many products of the machine-building industry, especially new technologies as well as many products connected with machine-building services and installations, either are not allowed to enter external markets due to political reasons, or are again being considered as part of the former USSR assets.

It should be no surprise to you that innumerable Ukrainian enterprises had been included in the closed production and technology cycles of the USSR. What was a production cooperative earlier, now must be restored by Ukraine on trade basis. It is, mind you, trade with imports.

The consequence of all these factors is very simple: The export capacity, which is much lower that the import capacity, implies a hard-currency deficit. Due to such a situation—regardless of whether mechanisms for regulating currency exchange rates include the policy of stock exchange sales—the demand for hard currency always surpasses supply. This difficult situation makes it impossible to maintain a stable exchange rate by traditional methods (for instance, by National Bank interventions). We need a stabilization fund exceeding the demand for hard currency in a traditional situation to make use of Ukraine's full economic potential. Due to this situation, it is vitally important that we resolve a number of political and legal problems, in other words, to create a new legal area for the activity of Ukrainian entrepreneurs. Believe me, we are not sitting idly by.

One of the principal directions is our active movement toward joining the GATT. Professionals, who are working on this endeavor (I am one of the heads of this group), assess the situation realistically.

[Skachko] Serhiy Hryhorovych, you headed Ukraine's delegation to last year's GATT talks. What were the results of those talks?

[Osyka] At that meeting, the GATT Council of Representatives approved a resolution on the creation of a working group for preparing a memorandum on Ukraine's joining GATT. Work on this document is still continuing. What kind of document is it? First of all, it is a detailed description of Ukraine's legislation connected directly or indirectly with various forms of foreign economic activity; in the first place, it is related to issues of foreign trade, administrative stages, custom duties, and tariffs. This is not simply a description of our laws; the memorandum is to include not only legislative bases, but also sublegislative [pidzakonny], departmental acts which constitute four-fifths of our legislative foundation. However, it is not all, either. The GATT document is to include a detailed analysis of the legislative situation in general, as well as, if necessary, additional explanations from individual points of view.

We are asking GATT to grant us preferential status [rezhym], that is, the status of a country with a transforming economy. The memorandum is to supply the foundation underlaying a GATT resolution on our country. In fact, regardless of the talks on joining GATT, work on the memorandum is a good opportunity for ourselves to become familiar with the particulars of the law-governed state which we have today. Ukraine's second step toward joining GATT is in bringing its legislation in line with world standards, even if only to a minimal degree. It is a necessary condition for us to be equal trading partners with the world. There is a great mass of legislative work which must be carried out on a highly professional level. I would like to believe that a new parliament will include professionals who will be up to this task.

Adviser Deems U.S. Trade Deal 'Unfavorable'

WS0404154394 Lvov MOLODA HALYCHYNA in Ukrainian 24 Mar 94 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Yuriy Karasyk Signed an Agreement With the United States Which Is Unfavorable for Ukraine"]

[Text] According to People's Deputy Vitaliy Polyakh, chief agricultural adviser to the Ukrainian president, Agriculture and Food Minister Yuriy Karasyk signed an "unfavorable for Ukraine contract for $20 million" during his visit to the United States. According to this deal, Ukraine will receive 70,000 tonnes of soya at a considerably higher price than in Europe. Vitaliy Polyakh believes that Ukraine will have to repay $20 million over some seven years. "Instead of buying technology and equipment, we are following the path of banana republics," said Vitaliy Polyakh.

'Paton' Said Planning Venture With U.S. Firms

WS0504105994 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 2134 GMT 4 Apr 94

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 14, 28 Mar - 3 Apr 94]

[Text] A consortium of US firms (TFPS) is reported to have drafted a comprehensive program for US industrial applications of Paton-designed electronic-beam vapor-coating spray technologies. This technology is said to be a dual-purpose one allowing both civilian and military applications.

The program is divided into two parts, each embracing a two-year period, and provides for acquisition of Paton technologies through the agency of the US University for Unified Research Partner Relations.

The Ukrainian Institute's technology is preliminary evaluated at 10 million dollars. Its application financial effect on seven branches of the US national economy, as American experts believe, may be in excess of 7 billion dollars within a decade with total implementation costs estimated at 10 million dollars.

The impressive project's implementation is supposed to require establishment of several joint ventures for promotion of Paton's technology in the US engineering, shipbuilding, aerospace and automaking industries, as well as in the nuclear power and medical industries and sport accessories manufacture.

In April 1993, the Paton Institute signed an agreement with Pratt & Whitney (United Technology Corp.'s division) to set up a joint venture [jv] for space manufacture of metals and ceramics, which is hardly feasible under the earth conditions. The jv's aggregate authorized fund is stated at one billion US dollars with each party's 50 per cent share in it. The Ukrainian party's contribution is expressed in its specialized equipment, production areas and intellectual property.

Pratt & Whitney, whose main speciality is aircraft, particularly, Boeing, engine design and construction, supplied a part of the equipment and did the bulk of financing.

Within the project's framework a research center will be set up in Kiev to develop new space material manufacture technologies based on the processes underlying electronic-beam vapor-coating spraying. Originally the US side contemplated its participation in the center's work during a five-year period. After it scrutinized the center's R&D the US party signed an agreement in February 1994 extending the period to another five year term.

In January 1994, the jv's R&D center, which employs about 30 fellow researchers in Kiev, was complemented with a pilot production facility staffed by over 50-strong personnel, which is a former workshop of a special electric metallurgical factory, Mikhail Koklyuchenko, jv C.E.O., disclosed in an interview to UKRINFORM.

This pilot facility has embarked on specimen manufacture of some materials intended for spraying metallic and ceramic durable coatings.

According to Mr. Koklyuchenko, their serial production will start in 1994 to continue in several years to come. As he maintains, they will find broad and versatile applications in both Ukraine and the USA, in view of which the jv expects numerous contracts to be signed shortly for their supplies.

The Yevgeniy Paton Arc Welding Institute under the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences was founded back in 1924, and has been among the world's leaders in this field ever since.

The electron-beam technology has been developed and improved for over two decades by now.

In addition to its numerous and broad fundamental studies the Institute has performed minor applied researches in arc welding engineer, as well as equipment

and material manufacture for its multitudinous domestic and foreign customers.

The Paton Institute's ramified substructure includes the Institute per se, which focuses on major research and fundamental theoretical studies, a pilot plant for arc welding equipment manufacture and specimen trials, a pilot plant for welding materials and technology testing, a pilot plant for special electric metallurgical engineering applications, a design and technological bureau with a pilot facility, and six engineering centers.

Initially, the jv's authorized fund amounted to about 60,000 dollars with each party's share of 50 per cent.

Patonweld experts suggested four marketing directions to sell Ukrainian technologies internationally. In late 1993, AT&T made and delivered specifically ordered 18 tons of powder for tear-resistant coatings to the partners.

To implement the jv's projects the Ukrainian party resorted to the services of the Torez factory of fusion coatings in the Donetsk region. (There were only two such factories in the former Soviet Union. The other one was located in Russia's Tula near Moscow).

Presently, Patonweld is said to have manufactured 40 tons of special powders.

However, as Petr Kuznetsov, the jv's spokesperson, tipped off to UKRINFORM, recently changed export procedures and introduction of the so-called specifically designated exporters hamper powder shipment to the jv's customers abroad. Averaged world market prices for such powders based on high-carbon compounds are about 1,200 USD per ton.

As Mr. Kuznetsov tends to believe, the jv's future activity will hinge on precisely exports of domestically designed and manufactured materials and products.

Ministry Drafts 1994 Plan for Agricultural Stocks

WS0504111994 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 2134 GMT 4 Apr 94

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 14, 28 Mar 3 Apr 94]

[Text] In accordance with the President's Decree of October 1993 "On State Contract and State Order for 1994" the Ministry of agriculture and foodstuffs of Ukraine, together with other involved ministries, departments and agencies, drafted schemes and mechanisms for forming the state's stock's of agricultural products and raw materials in 1994.

The State Contract envisages procurement of 14 million tons of grain, 1.56 million tons of oil crop seeds (basically, sunflower seed), 25 million tons of white beet roots. Under the state's agreements with agricultural growers and producers the state's centralized fund is to stock 703,000 tons of meat and meat products, 1,960 million eggs, 4,140,000 tons of milk and dairy products, 636,000 tons of potatoes, 434,000 tons of vegetables, other products and raw materials.

To make the State Contract materialize, the producers should be paid 38.8 trillion karbovanets.

As Nikolay Solodki, chief of the Ministry's Main Agency for food resources, disclosed at a Collegium meeting, as of March 28 contracts were concluded with Ukraine's agricultural producers (collective and state farms) to the tune of 32 trillion karbovanets.

Under the contracts' terms 25 per cent of the contract-specified sums are payable within 10 days. However, the farms were paid only 4.2 trillion karbovanets including 2.5 trillion karbovanets in short-term (up to 90 days) credits, which cannot but have a braking effect on the vernal sowing campaign's progress.

Ukraine's state stocks of agricultural products are estimated currently at 4.2 trillion karbovanets. However, their realization domestically or marketing abroad are hampered by too high prices, which exceed twofold the world market's averaged ones, which questions earning the required sums.

Ukrainian Minister for agriculture and foodstuffs Yuri Karasik attributes these too high agricultural product prices to unwarranted fuel price raises, particularly in 1993's second semester, when Ukrainian fuel prices exceeded the world market's averaged ones fivefold (at about 18 million karbovanets per ton of oil), allegedly due to the Ukrainian oil refineries' low performance in deep processing of crude petroleum.

This year, however, the Ukrainian government is reported to have solved the problem of purchasing a part of necessary fuels abroad at prices not exceeding 140 USD per ton.

No state loans are envisaged in 1994 and no credits will be granted to support the State Order, Nikolai Golub, vice-president of the "Ukraina" agrobank, said speaking at the Agricultural Ministry Collegium's session.

Bank President on Inflation, Monetary Regulation

WS0504110394 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 2134 GMT 4 Apr 94

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 14, 28 Mar-3 Apr 94]

[Text] Since December 1993 NBU [National Bank of Ukraine] has invariably succeeded in keeping its major pledge for inflation monthly rates under 20 percent, NBU president Viktor Yushchenko said at a press conference on 1 April, though, as he had to admit the goal's attainment involved non-monetary moves on the government's insistence, aimed at ruling out the inflation effect of monetary emissions by the National Bank of Ukraine.

Meanwhile, the inflation rate under 20 per cent a month automatically makes NBU's refinancing rates (at 240 per cent annual interest rate) positive, which Mr. Yushchenko considers the most beneficial factor under the present circumstances.

As NBU vice-president Igor Mityukov noted, the bank's major objective in the monetary regulation domain has been to create the essential prerequisites for evolving a real currency market in Ukraine, since presently this market is absolutely centralized.

However, as Mr. Mityukov further noted, Ukraine's financial structures were technically able to function in an absolutely decentralized currency market environment back in August 1993.

Since then the government has taken a series of rigid administrative moves tightening its grip on currency regulations. These included, in particular, imposition of a mandatory sale by exporter enterprises of 50 per cent of their hard currency earnings at the NBU-fixed rates, as well as suspended hard currency trading by the Interbank Currency Exchange and the Ukrainian karbovanets fixed rate.

Despite inflation, NBU has to work under the fixed karbovanets rate conditions, which results in multiple rates for the Ukrainian karbovanets. Thus, to prop up the engineering, coal-mining industries and agriculture their relevant ministries will be allowed to purchase hard currency earned through exports of their enterprises' products at the 30,000 krb.:1 USD rate instead of the official rate of 12,610 krb.:1 USD.

Meanwhile, hard currency acquisition through tenders and auctions (Ukraine's sole legal source of non-cash currency purchases), will be allowed, same as before, only for purposes, which the government's officers deign to consider as expedient (purchasing fuels, timber, medicines, for instance).

Relations with International Financial Institutions

Granting credits by the World Bank, IMF and other international financial institutions involves Ukraine's strict observance of certain commitments and requirements, primarily its economic reform's efficacy.

In Mr. Mityukov's opinion, this agreement allows the West to indefinitely and rather arbitrarily delay credit granting to Ukraine, though such credits could be very helpful in creating the stabilization fund for Ukraine's new monetary unit. Meanwhile, Ukraine's economic stabilization would allow the nation to apply foreign credits to other than pressing needs, purposes.

As Mr. Mityukov disclosed, an agreement was reached with IMF experts on the correctness of the national monetary unit's regulated rate vis-a-vis absent currency exchange operations, necessary to define it. However, they remain adamant in their demand to abolish multiple karbovanets rates.

Relations With Russia

Ukraine has not abandoned hope for settling with Russia the sensitive issue of sharing the late USSR's assets and liabilities.

Negotiations to this effect have not been successful, so far, with Russia having declared itself the USSR's sole legal successor and denying Ukraine's right to use the USSR's assets and service its debt.

According to Mr. Mityukov, by the time the USSR disintegrated its assets were composed of 74 billion foreign currency rubles (one such ruble was roughly equal to 1.5 USD) in credits granted to developing nations, 47 to 48 billion rubles in debts of the former COMECON nations, 3.5 billion rubles in realty and property abroad, and 295 tons of gold.

The USSR's gross debt amounted to 81 billion dollars and 17.3 billion rubles to COMECON nations.

In addition to the problem of sharing the former USSR's assets and liabilities Ukraine has been trying to push Russia to extinguishing internal currency indebtedness, which in Mr. Mityukov's opinion, should be the Russian Finance Ministry's responsibility and task.

According to NBU estimates, the Soviet Vneshekonombank owes 400 million dollars to Ukrainian natural person-citizens, while other banks of the former USSR owe 81.5 million dollars for exported Ukrainian grain plus 25 million dollars in Ukrainian collective farms' means.

Foreign Banks' Operations in Ukraine

Igor Mityukov tends to believe that foreign banks' activity in Ukraine cannot significantly improve the national financial system. Foreign bank affiliates in Ukraine employ predominantly Ukrainian personnel, and their operations are executed within a very narrow field.

The only bank, out of eight foreign banks established in Ukraine, whose presence is tangible on the Ukrainian market , is the First Ukrainian International Bank. However, it utilizes sizeable state capital.

Thus, as the NBU vice-president asserts, the National Bank's decision to limit the foreign banks' scope of activity to only non-residents, was a justified and well-grounded one.

Statistics Ministry on 1993 National Income

WS0504111194 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 2134 GMT 4 Apr 94

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 14, 28 Mar-3 Apr 94]

[Text] According to a press release by the Ukrainian Ministry of statistics, dated 28 March 1994, Ukraine's national income in 1993 is tentatively estimated at 98.4

trillion krb. Its absolute growth amounted to 94.5 trillion krb. with the nominal growth in factual prices versus 1992 exceeding 25 times, exclusively due to the price factor (wholesale and retail price growths for commodities and tariffs growths for services).

The price factor also affected the structure of national income in factual prices. Thus, the share of net produce in total industrial output increased from 49 per cent in 1992 to 52.2 per cent in 1993, while the same parameter in agriculture dropped from 19.7 to 16.4 per cent. Industrial commodity prices grew 41-fold versus a 32-fold growth for agricultural products.

In comparable prices, national income's branch structure break-down appears different with industrial products' share having diminished from 49 to 48.8 per cent and that of agricultural products having increased by 3.3 points to amount to 23 per cent.

In 1993, national income decline rates somewhat decelerated, and amounted to 15 per cent versus 18 per cent the year before. Basically, this was due to decelerated reductions in construction, agricultural production and lower material consumption by certain branches of Ukraine's national economy.

Industrial net product output's reductions (by 15.6 per cent) were particularly adverse for national income, which were caused by a 7.6 per cent reduction in total industrial output and increased by 3.7 per cent material consumption. Beginning with 1993's second semester over a half of Ukraine's industrial enterprises reduced their production.

Over the entire year, the bulk of these had to work under the very unfavorable conditions created by growing fuel and energy shortages. Thus, almost all the industrial branches reduced their production.

In 1993, construction and mounting works dropped by 9 per cent, which resulted in the construction industry's reduced total output by 8.7 per cent. Since material expenditures and costs reduced at a slower pace (by 8 per cent), the industry's net produce dropped by 9.2 per cent.

Total agricultural output reduced by 1.5 per cent with specific consumption of materials having dropped by 1.4 per cent, which resulted in net product output reduced by only 0.6 per cent.

Negative processes were aggravated by steeply raised fuel prices and undersupplies of imported fuels in December 1993. GNP and national income over this period versus 1992 were as follows (in comparable prices, per cent).

	GNP			National Income		
	1993	1994		1993	1994	
	Jan	Jan-Feb		Jan	Jan-Feb	
National economy, total	90.6	69.8	67.8	85.1	68.7	66.6
Including industry	92.4	67.3	64.3	84.4	67.0	64.1
Agriculture	98.5	85.7	88.8	99.4	84.9	85.1
Construction	91.3	65.1	55.0	90.8	64.4	54.4
Transport and communication	70.4	74.5	77.9	68.4	72.8	76.1
Circulation sphere	68.4	63.3	59.7	66.2	57.6	55.8

Update on Russian Gas Supply Problems

WS0504110094 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 2134 GMT 4 Apr 94

["Commonly Shared Problems of Ukraine's and Russia's Gas Industry Alleviate Russian Gas Supply Problem"—UKRINFORM headline; From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 14, 28 Mar - 3 Apr 94]

[Text] According to official information released by the Ukrgazprom (Ukraine's Gas Industry) concern, over the last week both the Russian and Ukrainian sides fully met their commitments involving natural gas supplies.

Ukraine's gas piping agencies are reported to have made more orderly Russian natural gas exports to Europe, while Russia's gas suppliers were similarly punctual in supplying natural gas to Ukraine both for themselves and for Turkmenistan to compensate for the latter's discontinued supplies.

For some objective reasons, the issue of suspended natural gas supplies by Russia to Ukraine has been deleted from the agenda. Or, more specifically, no emphasis is placed on the major underlying reason, which is Ukraine's fuel indebtedness. At least, now it has become obvious that the Russo-Ukrainian controversy, which the media used to interpret as the fuel indebtedness problem, lies in the status of major gas and petroleum pipe-lines, which have largely fallen within Ukraine's jurisdiction after the former Soviet Union's disintegration, though this fact is not at all tantamount to division of the formerly integral pipe-line system and Russia's tacit agreement with this. So, while persistently and actively overstating its warnings about natural gas

supply suspension the Russian side is well aware of its virtual inability to make the threats materialize, Ukraine's unpaid fuel debt to Russia notwithstanding.

Since the latest Moscow agreement, under which Ukraine had to start repaying its debt and at least pay for the 1994 first quarter's supplies with hard currency, Ukraine has factually repaid about 46 million dollars, which is less than a half of the sum subject to payment, according to Russia's Gazprom sources.

The Ukrainian government's subsequent March decision on lists of enterprises and amounts of commodities they should supply to Russia by way of repaying Ukraine's fuel debt, as well as the endorsed scheme for settling, may be viewed as just another palliative resolution among a series of five, which the Ukrainian Cabinet approved over the past six months. As analysts believe, it will be as inefficient, as its predecessors were.

Ukraine's, or more specifically, the Ukrainian State Committee's for oil and gas, major headache is the problem of internal non- payment. The above decisions, as well as the imposed rule of pre- payment starting with April 1, have all invariably threatened to discontinue natural gas supplies to debtor consumer-enterprises. To a certain extent, such threats can be carried out by Ukrgazprom and Ukrgaz against Ukrainian consumer enterprises. At least, Ukrzarubezhneftegaz spokespersons (this agency is in charge of control over mutual settling in line with the latest governmental resolution) hope that the threats, coupled with other administrative moves, which are provided for by the resolution, will succeed in repayment of the debt's major portion.

All the administrative pressure notwithstanding, Ukraine's metallurgical and chemical enterprises are reported as highly reluctant to comply with the government's strict order to remit their currency accounts to only the state-owned Export-Import Bank. The government's stratagem is too transparent and provides for imposing the state's total and rigid control over export enterprises' hard currency incomings with a view of channeling them to repayment of Ukraine's fuel debt.

The Ukrainian State Committee for oil and gas is said to pin its hopes on imposition of a rigid mechanism of payments for imported fuels to extinguish the internal debt, which may be implemented by the newly established Ukrneftegaz (Ukraine's Oil and Gas) National Joint-Stock Company of the holding type. Assuming the status of though state-run, yet monopolist in the field of fuel supplies, the National Joint-Stock Company is largely expected to realize its claims.

However as the Russian Gazprom association's experience may suggest, the hope is hard to materialize, since Russia's Gazprom has been acting in a similar manner toward intra-Russian gas consumers and under conditions, very much similar to those of Ukrgazprom.

The Russo-Ukrainian "debts should be repaid" dispute (as Ukraine's acting prime-minister Zvyagilski once put it) has ripened enough to assume the form of mutual proposals and compromises. For objective reasons, Russia cannot drastically curtail its natural gas supplies to Ukraine. Gas exports to West Europe have shrunk with spring's onset, firstly. The supply schedule for Ukraine, though it virtually exceeds the domestic requirements, will not be a weighty argument, since these gas supplies are basically intended for piping them to underground storages.

Russia's natural gas extractors cannot significantly curtail their extraction, either, purely for technical reasons, which makes them look for ways to dispose of the extracted natural gas somehow.

Besides, reduced natural gas piping may further compromise the already deteriorated major gas pipe-lines, which the Russian side has to admit. Ukraine's formal ownership of the pipe-lines does not relieve Russia of troubles involved in maintaining them technically operational. Ukraine is similarly interested in their good operational condition. Thus, Russia has to share the burden of operational costs involved in maintaining Ukraine's segment of the gas pipe-line system, which links Russian gas exporters with their West European customers.

In view of this one cannot but admit as quite rational Russia's bid to own a part of the vital gas export infrastructure, which is located in Ukraine. The latter, while not rejecting Russia's claim outright, appears in no hurry to meet it. Probably, this fact could be attributed to Ukraine's domestic economic troubles and its petroleum and gas industry's restructuring.

The Ukrainian side has apparently been doing its best to postpone the final decision on Russia's co-ownership having repeatedly promised Russia to sell stocks to be issued by Ukrainian gas and oil industry enterprises, which are supposed to undergo conversion into joint-stock societies, to Russian related enterprises. However, these promises may be rendered void by the privatization process, if it follows the pattern, which is supposed to be approved for the Ukrainian oil and gas industry.

Meanwhile, the CIS integral gas distribution system remains operational with the bulk of it in Russia's possession. So, it is Russia, who bears the burden of its operational costs. In late March Moscow was the venue of a sitting convened by Gazprom's Council for R&D and technologies, which discussed progress made in implementing the Highly Reliable Piping Transport Program. Academician Boris Paton, director of the Ye. Paton Arc Welding Research Institute, made a major speech. This fact and Ukraine's great contribution to this and other projects involving gas piping, may unambiguously and eloquently testify to both commonly shared by Ukraine and Russia problems and the integral quality of the major gas pipe-line infrastructure.

The above Program was adopted in 1991 by the then Union government. Its practical implementation started a year later.

The now independent governments of Russia and Ukraine articulated their support for it as an intergovernmental project. However, Ukraine had to drastically reduce its financing, though R&D efforts continued. The Program is said to contain nine major R&D directions. However, their implementation is now jeopardized. The Ukrainian party is reported as intending to complete and implement on its own the Program's Ukrainian section, which is but too logical considering some most recent international projects in this field.

Under the former USSR since the late 1960s about 22,000 to 26,000 km. of gas pipe-lines were annually commissioned including some 15,000 km. of major gas pipe-lines.

According to the Gazprom Council, in the late 1970s-early 1980s annual gas extraction increments of 40 billion cu. m. and more dictated construction of a high-capacity and superlong major pipe-line. Thus, high-pressure 1,420 mm. diameter gas pipe-lines were constructed. Over 50,000 km. of these were constructed in the Russian Federation alone.

The CIS major gas pipe-line system is 220,000 km. long with compressor stations' aggregate power of 50 million kW.

According to Russia's Gazprom, Russia operates 138,500 km. of major gas pipe-lines, 48,000 km. of major oil pipe-lines under the Transneft Company, and 13,000 km. of major petroleum product pipe- lines under the Transnefteprodukt company.

Many of these are used to pipe up to 250 billion cu. m. of natural gas a year from West Siberian fields to Europe. Some of these pipe as much as over 340 billion cu. m. of gas. Major pipe-lines cross railroads and highways in 15,000 cases, and water arteries in 2,000 cases, which makes their reliability and safety problem a vital and obvious one.

Their wear and tear poses great environmental pollution risks, since 25 per cent of gas pipe-lines have been operational for over 20 years, 38 per cent for between 10 and 20 years and 5 per cent have surpassed the limit of 33 years.

According to Gazprom, in 1993 there were 30 cases of pipe-line destruction. Compared to most developed nations, the number is not great. However, the pipe-lines' aging and failure to meet the European standards coupled with inadequate control over their technical safety may adversely affect the unified CIS - West European gas supply system.

Ambassador Views Relations, Policy Toward Russia

WS0404135494 Lvov POST-POSTUP in Ukrainian 25-31 Mar 94 p A2

[Interview with Ukrainian Ambassador to Russia Volodymyr Kryzhanivskyy by Viktor Tkachuk; place and date not given: "Volodymyr Kryzhanivskyy: 'If You Do Not Start Controversy Around Our Russians, Nobody Will Harass Them'"]

[Text] [Tkachuk] Perhaps it is easier for you, living there, to tell whether Moscow is ready to annex the Crimea if the poll there gives a positive result?

[Kryzhanivskyy] I will frankly say that Moscow is absolutely not ready to annex our territories, since this would be a violation of the tripartite statement [on nuclear disarmament]. You must understand that this would lead to an unpredictable confrontation between us and Russia.

[Tkachuk] Have Ukrainian-Russian relations warmed up since the tripartite statement was signed?

[Kryzhanivskyy] I would not term this warming. The situation is simply forcing us to meet each other halfway. Moscow is aware of the creeping tensions in our relations. Verbally, everyone supports improvement in our relations. Although our side has taken a great deal of open steps aimed at warming the climate in relations between our states, everything is hampered by certain things. You understand, all those statements about protecting the Russian-speaking population... I am simply appealing to Russian diplomats and politicians: Exclude 12 million Russian-speaking people living in Ukraine from the total number of 25 million who live outside Russia! Nobody will harass them in Ukraine. I have already told them that they can negotiate this issue with other CIS countries, but not with us, because there is nothing anti-Russian in Ukraine. Mr. Filatov, one of the closest advisers to Yeltsin, for example, has recently admitted in a private conversation with me that the Russian-speaking population is not oppressed in Ukraine. As you see, there are reasonable politicians in Russia who understand us.

[Tkachuk] Mr. Ambassador, do you believe that our foreign policy toward CIS countries, and primarily toward Russia, is active enough?

[Kryzhanivskyy] However the president and the prime ministers are always willing to improve relations between our countries, the parliament must also be taken into account. I believe that the new Supreme Council, even if it is headed by [current Supreme Council Chairman] Plyushch, will change its policy toward Russia. I think that the new legislators will understand the importance of establishing good relations between our countries.

[Tkachuk] Currently, Ukrainian and foreign analysts are pointing to the increasing influence of pro imperial

factors in Russia's foreign policy. Can Ukraine become a factor of deterrence for its neighbor?

[Kryzhanivskyy] Gaydar [former Russian deputy prime minister] recently told me that if the Ukrainian, Belarusian, and Russian economies are united, there will be only one result—a complete collapse of the Russian economy. I would like to emphasize that no reasonable politician who is today in power in Russia, counts on a union between Ukraine and Russia.

[Tkachuk] What is Russia's attitude toward President Clinton's "Partnership for Peace" initiative?

[Kryzhanivskyy] The attitude is rather interesting. Russia wants to join this program, however, not in the same manner as other countries such as Ukraine or Moldova. Russia wants to obtain a special status. It is impossible to wink at the fact that Russia is a huge state. Moreover, it is not only huge but also nuclear.

[Tkachuk] To what extent is Yeltsin's situation stable today, taking into account the new Duma and the recent amnesty?

[Kryzhanivskyy] I do not expect any political changes in Russia in the next five months. The current alignment of forces seems to satisfy everybody, even communists and nationalists.

Cabinet Decision Expected on Joint Venture

WS0504110194 Kiev UKRINFORM in English 2134 GMT 4 Apr 94

[From the "Business News Weekly" feature No. 14, 28 Mar - 3 Apr 94]

[Text] By now, Ukraine's Minister for communication Oleh Prozhyvalskyy has made several amendments to the tenor of his Ministry's license issued to Utel (Ukraine's Communications).

Their gist may be reduced to Utel's loss of its exclusive right to operate transnational telephone links in Ukraine, which the joint venture enjoyed since 1992.

The Minister is also said have specified that licenses to other operators may be issued on condition they promise to invest a portion of their incomes in development of Ukraine's telecommunications.

Formally, the Utel case was initiated by the Ukrainian Anti-Monopoly Committee.

The latter is said to be currently drafting its judgement on the problem, which has thus arisen. The Justice Ministry is scrutinizing Utel's statute documents with a view of making the necessary amendments.

A Cabinet decision on the Utel jv [joint venture] is believed to follow within a week.

The Utel jv was set up in 1992. The Ukrainian party, which is represented by 13 out of Ukraine's 25 regional communication agencies and the Ukrtekh and Kievelektrosvyaz associations, owns 51 per cent of its capital. The remainder is divided among the US AT&T, Germany's Deutsche Telecome (19.5 per cent each party) and the Netherlands' PTT Telecom (10 per cent of the jv's authorized capital).

As experts believe, Utel-2, which is supposed to unite the other 12 regional communication agencies, which are not among Utel's co-founder's can materialize if only some major Western company takes part in the project. France's Alcatel and Canada's Teleglobe are currently mentioned as having displayed a certain degree of interest to Ukraine's telecommunication market.

Since Utel's strategy relies primarily on land-based lines, rather than satellite communication links, UKRINFORM asked Andrey Zhalko-Titarenko, deputy director-general of the Ukrainian National Space Agency, to comment on changes in Ukraine's telecommunication market.

Says Mr. Zhalko-Titarenko: "Elimination of the US AT&T's monopoly on Ukraine's communication market by way of the Netherlands' AT&T's participation in Utel is a major step toward a market economy in Ukraine".

The gist of arguments, which Utel's opponents resort to, is AT&T's allegedly unreasonably high proceeds due to the so-called disbalanced traffic on account of the number of incoming calls exceeding that of made from Ukraine, since world telephone tariffs cannot be paid by the bulk of Ukraine's citizens. As satellite communication proponents have to admit, though, satellite communication tariffs can hardly be expected any lower, at least in the initial project implementation stage.

Crimean Council Asks Kravchuk To Suspend Edict

WS0404154494 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] The Crimean Supreme Council Presidium has appealed to Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk to suspend the decree on the Ukrainian president's office in the Republic of Crimea until a resolution defining functions of the office is adopted.

Crimean Broadcasting Staff Protests Decree

WS0404161194 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] At a meeting today, representatives of Crimean radio and television protested against [Crimean President] Yuriy Meshkov's decree discharging Krym Broadcasting Company President Valeriy Astakhov from his duties. Participants in today's meeting emphasized that the decree was an insult to the company staff and ignored their opinions. There was a unanimous decision to lodge a protest against Yuriy Meshkov's decree. The protest has been sent to the Ukrainian president, the president

of the Ukrainian Broadcasting Company, and the Ukrainian and Crimean Supreme Councils.

Belarus

Parliament Arranges Elections, Approves Ministers

WS0404135194 Minsk BELAPAN in Belarusian 1608 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] On 1 April, the Supreme Soviet Presidium held a session chaired by Mechyslaw Hryb. The session discussed questions related to the election of the Belarusian president. A. Abramovich, chairman of the internal [as received] electoral commission, presented a report to the session. A resolution on organizing measures for preparing and holding presidential elections was adopted. The Cabinet of Ministers as well as executive committees of oblast councils were charged with the task of immediately securing facilities, equipment, transportation, and means of communication, which are necessary for the normal work of electoral commissions. The Ministry of Culture and Publishing should publish within a 10-day period a mass edition of a brochure with the law on presidential elections. The media founded with the participation of state bodies, organizations, and institutions, as well as the media partly sponsored by the state, were instructed to provide presidential candidates with equal access for electoral addresses and to widely inform the public about the electoral campaign. In order to handle the organizational problems emerging during the preparation for the presidential elections, a working group was created, for which Vyacheslav Kuznyatsow, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, was appointed head. The Supreme Soviet Presidium approved the proposals of the Cabinet of Ministers to appoint Deputy Prime Minister Syarhey Linh as minister of economy of the Republic of Belarus; Alyaksandr Stalyarow as chairman of the State Committee for Broadcasting; Anatol Butevich as minister of culture and publishing; and A. Darafeyew as minister of natural resources and environmental protection. Other issues were also discussed.

Moldova

Delegation Heads Preview Talks on Russian Army Withdrawal

LD0504053794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0522 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau 5 April, TASS—A round of talks begins in Chisinau today between Russia and Moldova on the status and withdrawal of the Russian 14th Army from Moldovan Territory.

According to observers, this round is unlikely to produce a breakthrough because the sides differ too much on this issue. Chisinau insists on the prompt withdrawal of the Russian troops, while Russia and Transdniestria believe that the withdrawal must be conditioned on granting a special legal status to the left-bank regions of Moldova. The final say should belong to the parties concerned.

"The Russian delegation intends to discuss an agreement on the legal status, procedure and the time table of the presence of our troops on Moldovan territory. We have brought along a number of interesting proposals and hope that the Moldovan delegation will heed them," the Russian delegation head, ambassador at large, Vladimir Kitayev told ITAR-TASS.

"Chisinau's position with regard to the 14th Army remains the same—it must leave the Republic," said Moldovan delegation leader, the ambassador of Moldova to Russia, Anatoliy Tsaran. This question will be central in our negotiations. The original deadline named by the Moldovan side for the withdrawal of the Russian Army—1 July 1994—will certainly need revising since no agreement on it was reached during the preceding rounds.

"We also hope to agree on the problems of jurisdiction and property of the Russian Army and Moldova's contribution to the necessary arrangements for its accommodation in the new area", the Moldovan ambassador said.

Anatoliy Tsaran expressed the hope that the Transdniestrian position with regard to the withdrawal of the 14th Army will not be as tough as before after the recent parliamentary elections in Moldova.

Transdniestria's Vice-President Aleksandr Karaman told ITAR-TASS that Tiraspol objects to the withdrawal of the Russian 14th Army before the Dniester problem is settled.

"Chisinau and Tiraspol are now studying the Russian proposals about granting a special legal status to the left-bank regions. We find these proposals highly constructive," Karaman said. "We have long since proposed to Chisinau to make the republic a demilitarised zone and disband military formations on the both banks of the Dnepr. This move would ease the tension in the region and permit the withdrawal of the 14th Army from Moldovan territory without apprehension," he said.

Kazakhstan

'Drastic' Restructuring of Broadcasting Starts

LD0404165494 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1500 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] A drastic restructuring of the republican television and radio has started in Kazakhstan. In accordance with a decree signed by President Nursultan Nazarbayev today, the state Kazakhstan TV and Radio Broadcasting Company is to be closed down and a republican corporation of Kazakhstan's television and radio is to be set up instead.

The head of state says his decision has been caused by objective necessity: It is obvious that the state broadcasting company has lost the struggle for the radio audience to the numerous commercial studios and stations in Kazakhstan, as well as to programs broadcast from Moscow. It is no coincidence that (Leyla Beketova), head of a commercial TV channel, has been appointed president of the new corporation.

At the same time, one can clearly see that the Kazakhstan head of state is striving to increase his own influence on the Republic's television and radio broadcasting. For instance, the top official of the corporation will be directly subordinate to him. The president of the Republic has also appointed a senior official from his press service as his permanent representative in the new structure.

Nazarbayev Appoints Representative in Parliament

LD0404115594 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Russian 0600 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] By an instruction of Kazakh President Nazarbayev, Murat Rayev who worked as chairman of a committee in the previous parliament, has been appointed personal representative of the head of state in the Supreme Kenges.

Nazarbayev Comments on Upcoming Trip to Japan

LD0204091594 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0739 GMT 2 Apr 94

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Varlamov]

[Text] Tokyo 2 April, TASS—President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan is of the opinion that a Euro-Asian Union (EAU) which he suggests and which, in his view, could be more effective than the structure of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), should be patterned after the European Community. Nazarbayev said this in an interview given in Alma Ata [Almaty] to the Japanese newspaper MAINICHI on the eve of his forthcoming official visit to Tokyo. The visit begins on 6 April.

The EAU idea, MAINICHI quotes Nazarbayev as saying, is based on the recognition of only full membership of states, with each of them undertaking to abide by jointly adopted decisions.

"More than 300 joint documents have been adopted over the period of the CIS existence. However, no results are seen, because a number of states partially reject some of them, interpreting the contents of agreements in their own interests," Nazarbayev explained.

Touching upon his forthcoming trip to Japan, the president of Kazakhstan emphasised that he intends to discuss aid to people who suffered from nuclear tests in the area of Semipalatinsk and expects a positive response from the Japanese leadership.

In addition, Nazarbayev is to call on Japan to take an active part in a Kazakhstan-suggested international conference on the fate of the Aral Sea, a likely disappearance of which threatens with a tremendous damage to the environment, and not only to that of the Republic.

Russia To Pay Monthly Rent for Baykonur

LD0404141894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1319 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Russia's first payment to Kazakhstan for the Baykonur cosmodrome will be $1.25 Bn (the size of Kazakhstan's debt to Russia—INTERFAX). This fact was disclosed at a Monday news conference in Alma-Ata [Almaty] by the Kazakh Deputy Prime Minister for Science Galym Abilsiitov.

He said Russia will also pay a monthly rent of $115 Mn partly in cash and partly through mutual settlements.

Abilsiitov said the head of administration in Leninsk where the cosmodrome staff lives will be appointed jointly by the presidents of the two countries and the chief of the cosmodrome by the Russian head of state with the consent of his Kazakh counterpart. A special envoy of the Kazakh president is supposed to be present at the cosmodrome.

Abilsiitov said that Kazakhstan and Russia should work out the contract on the cosmodrome in three months. The Kazakh government shall act as lessor and the Russian as lessee. Abilsiitov will head the Kazakh side of the commission. In his opinion the work has only begun and will be quite difficult.

The deputy prime minister also said that the national aerospace agency will be moved to Leninsk from Alma-Ata.

Commenting on Abilsiitov's statement one of the drafters of the agreement on Baykonur told INTERFAX that the size of compensation for the use of the facility has not been approved, while under the agreement it should not exceed the size of Kazakhstan's debt to

Russia. He said he could not understand what compensation can be in question, "as Russia has actually covered all the spending on the maintenance of the cosmodrome alone." In his opinion, "if Russia had stopped spending on Baykonur two years ago, there would have been nothing to rent today."

Kyrgyzstan

Joint Japanese-Kyrgyz Economic Commission Formed

LD0104203494 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 2300 GMT 31 Mar 94

[Text] With the aim of promoting friendly bilateral economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and Japan the Government of Kyrgyzstan has issued a regulation on setting up a Kyrgyzstan-Japanese Economic Commission. [Words indistinct] of the secretariat of the above-mentioned commission. (?Its goals) are to carry out joint studies and exchange information on foreign trade and investments, science, economy, and technology. The commission is expected to contribute to boosting and establishing bilateral economic and scientific cooperation, exchanging delegations of experts and probationers, organizing joint meetings between members of the Japan-Kyrgyzstan and Kyrgyzstan-Japanese Economic Committees, and settling problems that arise between the two countries in their economic and investment policies.

Turkmenistan

Iran Oil Minister in Cooperation Talks

LD0404203194 Tehran IRNA in English 1944 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Moscow, 4 April, IRNA—Iran's Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh arrived in Ashgabat Monday to hold talks with Turkmen officials on ways to expand Tehran-Ashgabat cooperation in areas of oil and gas.

Aqazadeh who is headimg a delegation composed of oil and gas experts was welcomed by Turkmem Vice-President Batar Saragaev and his Turkmen counterpart Nazar Suyunov at the airport.

Aqazadeh is also to take part at a session on the construction of a Turkmen pipeline to Turkey and Europe via Iran.

The session will be chaired by the Turkmen president and attended by ministers of oil and energy from Russia, Turkmenistan, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan as well as ambassadors of some European countries to Turkmenistan.

Gas Pipeline to Europe Via Iranian Territory Agreed

LD0404205094 Tehran IRNA in English 2021 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Moscow, 4 April, IRNA—Turkmenistan is to pump gas to Europe by way of a trunkline that will pass through Iranian territory, according to an agreement between the Turkmen Republic and Iran.

Iranian Oil Minister Gholam Reza Aqazadeh said in Ashgabat Monday that the two countries would be the principal sides to the agreement that will pump Turkmen gas to Europe.

Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov appreciated the value of the project Monday saying cooperation between the two neighbours would be mutually beneficial.

The Iranian oil minister also conveyed the greetings of President Hojjat-ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to the Turkmen president.

Uzbekistan

Parliament, Ukraine's Kravchuk on Eurasian Union Proposal

LD0404170094 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1550 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Compiled by Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovskiy; Edited by Vladimir Shishlin]

[Text] Tashkent—A newspaper published by Uzbekistan's parliament and government, NARODNOYE SLOVO (THE PEOPLE'S WORD), has sharply criticized Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev's proposal for a Eurasian Union. One of the issues of the paper carried a story headlined "Spring Has Come. The Indefatigable Politician Is Buzzing Around," which says the phrase "Eurasian Union" is aimed at "simpletons."

"Uzbekistan still has a long way to go to reach the level of Europe, where states can afford the luxury of unification without being afraid to find themselves under somebody else's dictatorship," the story says.

"The essence of the Eurasian Union idea is not new. It pursues the aim of restoring the Soviet Union, which is nothing but gibberish," the story says.

Such was the first reaction in Uzbekistan to Nazarbayev's idea. The newspaper received the story from the Republic's national news agency.

Kiev—Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk, in comments to journalists, called Nazarbayev's initiative "premature," but said it "needs serious study." He said the final decision on it should not be the prerogative of the heads of state of the countries concerned but ought to be based on referendums in them.

Kravchuk said he objected to the dissolution of the CIS, which, he said, had not yet exhausted its potential.

NARODNOYE SLOVO Criticizes Nazarbayev

LD0204184294 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1632 GMT 2 Apr 94

[Text] The newspaper Narodnoye Slovo, official organ of Uzbekistan's Supreme Soviet and Cabinet of Ministers, sharply criticized the idea of Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev to create a Euro-Asian Union. The article headed "Spring. Restless politician is gambling" says, in particular, that the words "Euro-Asian Union" are "for simpletons."

"Uzbekistan is still to grow up to Europe's level where the states can allow such an extravagance—unification without the fear to appear under a foreign dictatorship," said the article.

In the opinion of the author, there exists a real threat to appear under an alien dictatorship in the post-Soviet time. The article underlined that "the essence of the idea to create the Euro-Asian Union is the same—to revive the former Soviet Union and this cannot be assessed in any other way but as a pure delirium."

This publication in the official press is the first reaction of the Republic towards Nazarbayev's initiative. The article was handed over to the newspaper by the national information agency.

Armenia

Events on 30-31 Mar; NKR Disputes Azerbaijani Claims

NC0404191694 Yerevan Radio Yerevan in Azeri 1330 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] The situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] has been relatively peaceful during the past few days. The Armenian Defense Army headquarters has revealed that the disputing sides have refrained from intensive combat operations. But the Armenian defense positions in Askeranskiy Rayon were fired on from military bases in Egerli and Kemerli in Agdamskiy Rayon with large-caliber machine guns in the morning of 31 March. Firing resumed at about 1500 on the same day. Ashagy Akhmedli in Fizulinskiy Rayon and Mat-avis and Magavus in Mardakertskiy Rayon were also fired on on 31 March. No one was hurt.

NKR military experts have linked the lessening tension in NKR's front line witn recent defeats suffered by the Azerbaijani Armed Forces in several areas.

The NKR Defense Army headquarters has refuted a disclosure by the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry that the Azerbaijani military forces have placed new positions under their control in Agdamskiy Rayon. A high-ranking NKR military official has described the disclosure as an effort to divert attention from the failure of the Azerbaijani Armed Forces' large-scale onslaught in the eastern front line and the large number of casualties they have suffered. That is quite true. The Azerbaijani military forces have lost many men and a large quantity of military equipment from December 1993 to April 1994. Dozens of enemy officers and men have been captured, over 10,000 Azerbaijani troops have been killed, and some 30,000 men have been wounded.

The Armenian Defense Ministry Information Center has reported that the situation on Armenia's border was relatively peaceful on the night of 30 March and on 31 March.

Official Declares Relations With Iran 'Still Normal'

NC0404174894 Yerevan SNARK in English 1232 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Yerevan, April 4 (SNARK)—Levon Zurabyan, acting press-secretary of the Armenian president declared today Armenian-Iranian relations are still normal. Iranian Government hasn't apply any sanctions on Armenia, despite the recent declaration of Iranian Foreign Ministry, blaming Armenia for the crash of the plain C-130 in Karabakh, said Mr. Zurabyan at a briefing in Yerevan. He mentioned the incident hasn't influence on the whole the relations between Armenia and Iran.

At the same time, he reported that the Iranian commission of experts and a similar commission from CIS, having a mandate from UN haven't made any official conclusion on the reasons of the air-crash.

According to the available data the plane's flight through the territory of Azerbaijan and Karabakh lasted 15 minutes more than it should be by the schedule.

All the communication with the plane was interrupted after it had appeared in the air-space of the Azerbaijani airport Ganja. Its flight was hence controlled by the Azerbaijani Air-Defence forces.

All this data is given to the Iranian side, said Mr. Zurabyan.

Spokesman on Conditions for Ending Hostilities

LD0404133794 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1317 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan April 4 TASS—Armenia has agreed to stop hostilities in the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, but put forward several conditions.

Those include the disengagement of the warring sides, the deployment of peace-keeping troops and observers in the demilitarised zone, equal participation of Nagorno-Karabakh in the settlement process and recognition it as "one of the warring sides."

The announcement was made by Armenian Presidential Spokesman Levon Zurabyan on Monday.

Zurabyan said that Azerbaijan is the only country which "does not want to reconcile with the political reality—the existence of Nagorno-Karabakh." "Azerbaijan must recognise this reality, sit down at the negotiation table with Nagorno-Karabakh as Moldova did with the Dniester region and Georgia with South Ossetia," he said.

President Okays Latest CSCE Karabakh Peace Plan

LD0504083794 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0700 GMT 5 Apr 94

[Text] President of Armenia Levon Ter-Petrosyan agrees to the concept at the heart of the (?Russian) peace plan and CSCE program for a settlement to the Karabakh conflict, which envisages discussion of Nagorno Karabakh's status after a cease-fire, lifting of the communications blockade and withdrawal by forces from occupied territory, the acting press secretary for the Armenian president, Zurabyan, told a briefing in Yerevan.

He said that Azerbaijan also agrees to this approach, but at the same time is not recognizing Nagorno Karabakh as an equal party in the negotiations and thus not accepting the political [word indistinct]. Zurabyan stressed that Armenia believes that the CIS can considerably influence a Karabakh settlement. The best guarantee of peace

in Karabakh will be troops and observers to supervise demarcation, who should be deployed in the conflict zone.

Azerbaijan

'Text' of President Mubarak's Letter to Aliyev

NC0404192494 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 0400 GMT 4 Apr 94

["Text" of a letter from President Husni Mubarak to President Geydar Aliyev; date not given, read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, and compassionate. President Geydar Aliyev, I have received your letter of 14 January 1994. You focused significant attention on bilateral relations and the perspectives and opportunities for cooperation between our two countries in various fields to benefit our peoples. Our people have been bound together by historic and cultural ties, which have helped [words indistinct] flourish.

Egypt contributes toward the effort made to establish a just and durable peace in the Middle East. It also contributes to the effort made to establish peace in the Caucasus. We regard as our guidelines the principles that the occupation of territories through the use of force is inadmissible, that territorial integrity must be respected, and that international relations must be maintained in a peaceful way and in accordance with the UN Charter's principles and objectives.

Egypt has closely followed the dispute in Daghlyk Karabakh. It has condemned the occupation of Azerbaijan's territory through the use of force and called for the complete withdrawal of Armenia's occupying forces. Egypt has outlined on various platforms that it approves of the international effort aimed at ending the dispute and supports the CSCE Minsk Group's initiatives, which are in line with the UN Security Council resolutions.

Egypt hopes that the destructive war will end and financial resources will be channeled toward maintaining the effort to realize economic reform. That complies with the region's interests.

Mr. President, I am truly very happy to have been invited to visit Azerbaijan. I am pleased to invite you to visit Egypt. The date of the visit will be established through diplomatic channels.

I conclude by wishing progress and happiness to Azerbaijan's peaceful people. I also wish you sound health and happiness.

CIS Peacemaking Mission Visits Baku, Yerevan

LD0104184394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1703 GMT 1 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondents Tigran Liloyan and Sergey Ostanin]

[Text] Yerevan April 1 TASS—Members of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly's peace-making delegation expressed satisfaction with the results of their meetings with Azerbaijanian leaders, including President Heydar Aliyev, on Friday.

"I counted on a candid conversation about the Nagorno-Karabakh crisis. Such a conversation did take place," Medetkan Sherimkulov, head of the delegation, told ITAR-TASS.

Asked about a meeting between Azerbaijanian, Armenian parliamentaries and representatives of Nagorno-Karabakh slated to be held in Bishkek next May, Sherimkulov said, "it is premature to say whether the meeting will differ from other meetings in principle. If it takes place, it will be held at due level, and major interests of all the parties will be taken into account."

The delegation flew in Yerevan on the same day to meet with members of the presidium and deputies of the Armenian Supreme Soviet (parliament).

According to Parliament Speaker Babken Ararktsyan, "a new constructive approach to the Nagorno-Karabakh problem is beginning to show in Russia's initiatives."

One can hardly overvaluate the significance of Russian initiatives, he noted. The involvement of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly will contribute to a peaceful solution of this problem.

Ararktsyan confirmed that the Bishkek meeting between the parties involved in the conflict would take place.

The delegation is to meet with Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan on Friday night and to leave Yerevan for Stepanakert in the morning on Saturday.

Tension in Nikhichevan 'Mounts' Following Election

NC0404160394 Baku TURAN in English 1001 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Baku (April 2) TURAN—Yesterday there was the session in Nakhichevan Supreme Majlis. Natiq Gasanov, was appointed a new Chairman of Supreme Majlis of Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic. Earlier he was the chief of the Administrative Department of Supreme Majlis. The Chairman of Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan, Rasul Guliyev, attended the session as well.

Since June 1993, when the former speaker of Nakhichevan's Supreme Majlis, Geydar Aliyev, took the office of the President of Azerbaijan, the post of the speaker in Nakhichevan remained vacant.

The tension in Nakhichevan mounts. There were a series of rallies of the members of the opposition in Ordubadskiy and Dzhulfinskiy region. The local powers of those regions support Abulfaz Elchibey.

Deepening socio-economic crisis in Azerbaijan lessen Baku's control over Nakhichevan. Obviously, after the elections Azerbaijan will increase pressure on Nakhichevan.

Official on Intention To Dismiss Bank Chief

LD0404122994 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1056 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] The Government of Azerbaijan intends to sack the National Bank chairman, Galib Agayev, "because of his failure to conduct monetary and crediting policy satisfactorily and observe the existing banking legislation." As Interfax learned from the chairman of the standing governmental commission for economic policy, Tofik Azizov, the issue of Agayev's resignation has been submitted to Azerbaijan's president.

In March a special governmental commission checked up the work of the National Bank, as a result of which gross violations of legislation on banking activity were revealed, he said. For instance, Azizov stressed, throughout last year the National Bank issued credits totalling 292 billion rubles, and subsequently sold those funds as credit resources, notwithstanding the fact that they had not returned from circulation yet. This brought about unfounded credit emission, which, in its turn, caused higher inflation, Azizov concluded.

Last year the level of inflation made up 1080 percent, and in the first two months of the current year 200 percent. The national monetary unit, manat, was put into circulation in August of 1992, however in 1993 the National Bank made settlements only in Russian rubles.

The chairman of the governmental commission also said that last September, on instructions from Agayev, the National Bank closed all the correspondent accounts of local commercial banks. Such an action, Azizov pointed out, considerably complicated interbank settlements as well as settlements with foreign countries, CIS members among them.

According to Azizov, the ill-advised policy pursued by the National Bank chairman brought about debt claims presented to Azerbaijan by a number of countries, including Russia—for 81.5 million dollars, Kazakhstan—for 6 million dollars and Turkmenistan—for 9 million dollars, and resulted in "unprecedented bribery on the part of commercial banks during the receiving of cash, as well as in the forming of another circle of monetary circulation which is beyond the National Bank's control."

Georgia

Shevardnadze on Abkhazia, Cabinet Approvals

LD0404130094 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0600 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Regular weekly interview with Georgian State Council Chairman Eduard Shevardnadze by Nato Oniani in Tbilisi on 4 April—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage indistinct] [Oniani] Tbilisi subway engine drivers were on strike and returned to work yesterday. The railway was also on strike. What do you think this is? Is this a result of their social conditions, I mean a social mutiny certain circles have been threatening us with? Or is this an action planned in accordance with certain political forces' desire to come to power?

[Shevardnadze] I think both. I am not going to elaborate on this. I simply want to express my attitude. I am thankful to the railway personnel, whom I have always relied on, and the personnel of the subway. They experience great difficulties and despite this, they have demonstrated a high civic awareness, acknowledged our difficulties, and taken into consideration the difficulties of the country and every citizen of the country and returned to work. I am thankful to the deputies who visited the strikers. They had thought that something unlawful was taking place. I cannot say that they appealed to them to return to work, but they assured themselves that the law had not been violated there and they did not provoke the continuation of the strike. [passage omitted]

Now a few words about strikes in general. Strikes make sense in two cases. First, when the state or a private entrepreneur has possibilities and resources that are not used for the benefit of the employees. As a result, the employees suffer economic losses and feel insecurity in some other spheres.

The state and the citizens are well aware what Georgia possesses today. They will not be able to gain much from their strikes. [passage omitted] An increase of salaries in coupons can eventually have a reverse effect. A better result can be achieved if it is found possible to bring in goods so that they are purchased for coupons. This could help, but the state does not have a lot of big resources or reserves. Of course, we can issue a large number of additional coupons and distribute them, but this will not be of any help. So, in this case, a strike is not a good tool to improve your own economic conditions and the economic conditions of your enterprise.

Another time is when you consider it necessary that the head of state quit, the government be replaced, and so on. [passage omitted] My actions have repeatedly proved that no violent forces or strikes are required for this. I reiterate that I have always been ready for this if it is beneficial for our deeds. But I want to declare that while I am doing my job, I will do it as my conscience allows me and as my knowledge and experience, as well as

physical possibilities, allow me to. Keep in mind that there cannot be more than 24 hours in a day. Hence, the physical possibilities of those who give all their power and sense of responsibility to their work are limited. Therefore, at present, there are no grounds for a demand that the authorities quit. I mean that a strike is not a means to save the state today. On the contrary, a strike will practically be directed against families, children, and our own country.

[Oniniani] Certain positive changes have been observed lately in talks with the Abkhazia side in Moscow. Will these promote the deployment of peacekeeping forces in Abkhazia? Another question. The day before yesterday, you spend most of the time in the Ministry of Defense. What is being done to achieve the aim you planned when taking up the leadership of the ministry, I mean the establishment of a new Georgian army?

[Shevardnadze] If signed this morning, the text of the agreement will be both a maximum and a minimum. The work on it still continues in Moscow, and I am not ready to comment on every paragraph of it because changes were being introduced during the past two days. It is a maximum of the present possibilities and a minimum for the UN Security Council to make a decision on the deployment of international peacekeeping forces. You remember their precondition that certain progress should be made during the talks, a cease-fire should be implemented, fighting should be stopped, and only after this the United Nations would make a decision to have international forces deployed. Therefore, when signed, this agreement will have an essential importance. As for the formula mentioned by Kozyrev, it will be amplified this morning, and I think it must be acceptable in principle. There is a little exception there. An armed person should not enter Abkhazia. Neither should those who are in the military service, in military units today. They cannot enter Abkhazia as servicemen. This has nothing to do with about 98 percent of the population, and only the case of about 2 percent should be elucidated. I know what will follow the publication of the agreement. There will be questions about what the other side is doing and how will the issues of demilitarization, disarmament of the units present there be handled. All this comprises the second stage.

At the moment, the principal thing is to create conditions for the deployment of international peacekeeping forces. And I want everyone to understand this well.

As for the Ministry of Defense, serious work has started there. [passage omitted] A lot is yet to be done. We have discussed all this at the meeting of the collegium and made certain decisions. We shall speak about the decisions later.

[Oniani] Batono [polite form of address] Eduard, what do you think can be the reason of a virtually unanimous approval of your nominees to the Cabinet of Ministers? I am asking this question because before this process began, there was rather a strong opposition to them.

[Shevardnadze] Do not hurry. About the unanimity. There have been difficulties. What can be said about the case with Mr. Mindia Ugrekhelidze? It is an absolutely incomprehensible case. This man is a living image of conscience and honor, one of the best experts on law. I have a deep respect for him as a lawyer and an individual and I cannot imagine anyone who does not respect him. An amazingly positive person, and I believe this was a result of some misunderstanding. But it happened anyway, and this is a difficulty.

We are facing a crucial day tomorrow. The fate of 10 ministries will be decided. I believe that the parliament will stick to its good standards.

Now, you are asking me what the motive is and why it has been happening like this. I would like to give the following explanation. A sense of responsibility is dominant in the case. This happened when the parliament demonstrated its unity as the police forces intruded into the building. I believe that the majority of the parliament, I do not mean the official majority but actually most of the deputies are well aware of the situation the country can find itself in if a government crisis continues. In fact, we are witnessing a crisis now because a person has been sitting in the parliament for weeks waiting for his turn to be approved. The ministries are at a virtual standstill at the moment. I reiterate, this is a sense of responsibility.

[Oniani] And finally. In his TV interview, Security Minister Igor Giorgadze forecast that the current tensions would culminate on 9 April [on this day in 1989, 20 people died when Soviet troops dispersed a rally, and in 1991, the Georgian parliament adopted an Act on the restoration of Georgia's independence]. Was this the reason for the postponement of your visit to Israel?

[Shevardnadze] Generally, before my foreign visits something always takes place. The same has happened now. I mean strikes, the incident that happened here [the police raid on parliament], which has not been completely settled yet, and yet another expected event Mr. Giorgadze spoke about. So, I summoned the Israeli ambassador and informed him with anguish that my leaving the country was not expedient at the moment.

I would say that I am doing this to be on the safe side. So, I have put off a visit that is so important for our country and especially for the economic prospects of the country. Some people think that these visits are simply visits and excursions and nothing else. You yourself have witnessed what hard work is done during these visits. Everyone who is involved is extremely busy. And every visit has a certain effect on Georgia. We have not become rich, but the fact that we can take a breath and we exist is a result of these visits.

U.S. President Clinton announced that he was allotting about $70 million in aid. Later, as a result of our delegation's activities there, the sum increased to about $80 million. Some more sums will be added to this from other sources and foundations, some from previous

years, and eventually Georgia will have $140-$150 million for the current year. There would have probably been certain assistance even without this visit, but the visit played its role. Thus, it is not entertainment, and when a visit is on the agenda, we have to back up one another because this is so essential for Georgia. Thank you.

UCG Holds First Congress, Elects Shevardnadze

AU0104134794 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 22 Mar 94 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Country's Concern for the Citizen and the Citizen's Concern for the Country. The First Congress of the Union of Georgia's Citizens"]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] On 18 March, the first congress of the Union of Georgia's Citizens [UGC] was opened ceremoniously by the eminent Georgian scientist Aleksandr Javakhishvili in the large concert hall in the Tbilisi Philharmonic building. [passage omitted]

The congress outlined concrete tasks aimed at bringing the country out of the political and economic crisis and an action program. In particular, great attention was devoted to questions regarding privatization, the development of entrepreneurship, the improvement of the taxation system, and the boosting of industry and agriculture.

The union adopted a program document and rules.

The attention of the deputies was focused on the problem of Abkhazia. Zurab Erkvania, Zaur Chanchibadze, Vakhtang Kobalia, and others delivered speeches during examination of this question. It was said that the UGC, unlike other political organizations, had assumed responsibility for the country's fate. "In this Union, we see a strong organizational force for the return of Abkhazia. No further state development in Georgia is possible while the Abkhazian question remains unresolved." The speakers gave a positive assessment of the decisions adopted by the Georgian authorities regarding Abkhazia and their attempt to regulate Russian-Georgian relations. [passage omitted]

Head of State Eduard Shevardnadze delivered a long speech at the congress. Then, elections were held.

By secret ballot, the congress's delegates elected Eduard Shevardnadze as chairman of the Union.

Zurab Zhvania was elected its general secretary, Gia Zhorzholiani speaker of the consultative body, and Revaz Chkheidze chairman of the auditing commission.

The congress elected members of the auditing commission, the Union's main council, and its consultative body.

The UGC once more confirmed that its ideology was evident from its name. The country's concern for the citizen and the citizen's concern for the country is the guarantee for the political, social, and economic strength of Georgia.

Ioseliani Appeals to Security Council Chairman

AU0104201394 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 23 Mar 94 p 2

[Letter from Jaba Ioseliani, head of the Georgian delegation at the Geneva negotiations on the Abkhazian conflict, to UN Security Council Chairman Jean-Bernard Merimee (name as published); place and date not given: "To Batoni (Georgian polite form of address) Jean-Bernard Merimee"]

[Text] Dear Mr. Chairman!

First of all, I would like to express my gratitude for the big contribution that you are making to the matter of the peaceful settlement of the conflict in Abkhazia.

I note with great satisfaction the extremely objective and constructive character of your speech. It clearly points out those counteractions that are hindering the achievement of substantial progress at the Geneva negotiations, which is the fault of the Gudauta grouping.

I would like to emphasize that this grouping does not want to see a successful conclusion to the Geneva negotiations and, primarily, the introduction of UN troops into the region, which should ensure the dignified and safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes. The separatists want to maintain the existing situation and transform the democratic structure, which has been changed by force, into an irreversible phenomenon. I would like to point out also that, if we need UN troops to ensure the security of the refugees and displaced persons, the aim of the Gudauta grouping is to use them to violate the territorial integrity of Georgia and camouflage the filtration of refugees and displaced persons.

It was pointed out at the session of the Security Council that the introduction of UN troops into the region and the return of refugees and displaced persons are interrelated issues and humanity demands that these problems be resolved in the shortest period of time. It is also significant that, in its Resolution 901 of 4 March 1994, the Security Council requests that the secretary general submit to the Council by 21 March a report on "any progress" achieved at the Geneva negotiations and on the existing situation in the area, with particular attention paid to those circumstances that could be used as a basis for the deployment of peacekeeping troops, and on the forms for the creation of these troops (Paragraph 2; there is an English text).

We believe that, in accordance with existing rules, in order to deploy these troops, both the agreement of the two sides and the achievement of progress at the talks are necessary.

In the memorandum on mutual understanding and the communique, both sides involved in the conflict request that the UN introduce peacekeeping troops. Thus, the first condition has been satisfied.

As regards the second condition, the situation here, as you know, is very complex: What can be considered as "any progress" on the path toward a full-scale settlement?!

At the third round of negotiations held in Geneva and New York, two documents were the focus of attention: The joint statement and the quadrilateral agreement on the voluntary return of refugees and displaced persons.

We believe that the point that stipulates the creation of a standing committee for the elaboration of proposals on the political and legal status of Abkhazia is of particular significance.

In order to guarantee the preservation of both the distinctiveness of a small nation and Abkhazia's statehood, we are ready to give them the following rights:

1. The territorial supremacy of Abkhazia's state power (or the impossibility of changing the territory of Abkhazia without its agreement).

2. The right to have its own constitution.

3. The right to have its own state language (or languages).

4. The right to have its own state symbols.

5. Representation in the highest body of state power in the Republic of Georgia.

6. Respect for the rights of the entire multinational population of Abkhazia.

7. Broad local self-administration.

Apart from the aforementioned, we are ready to guarantee the possibility of Abkhazia's self-organization within specific limits in accordance with the Republic of Georgia Constitution and the Law on Abkhazia, which implies:

1. The right to determine its own system of supreme and local state bodies;

2. The right to determine its own administrative and territorial division;

3. The right to have its own legislation;

4. The right of legislative initiative in the Republic of Georgia's supreme state bodies;

In order to raise Abkhazia's political and legal status and impart real and specific substance to its jurisdiction, we are ready to implement the division of the objects and powers of administration between the supreme state bodies of the Republic of Georgia and Abkhazia, for which purpose the following has to be determined:

1. Abkhazia's exclusive jurisdiction;

2. The Republic of Georgia's exclusive jurisdiction;

3. Joint jurisdiction.

The list of specific objects appertaining to each of these points will be determined during the course of the negotiations. We support the maximum expansion of both the jurisdiction of Abkhazia and the joint jurisdiction of the center and Abkhazia within the limits established by world constitutional practice.

As regards the mechanism for legitimizing the agreements adopted on the division of the objects and powers of administration, I believe this should be implemented by means of a law on Abkhazia. I think this law should be adopted either by a special constituent body created by the sides involved in the conflict or by the whole population of Abkhazia in a referendum and then approved by the Georgian Parliament.

In order to ensure the protection and implementation of the adopted agreements, it is desirable to have international guarantees from the UN and the CSCE.

As regards the agreement on refugees and displaced persons, the provision that is being proposed to us by the Abkhazian side is unacceptable since it prohibits a large number of the refugees from returning home peacefully. Almost all family members have been fighting with weapons in their hands for the territorial integrity of their motherland. Many of them belong to armed formations even today. However, all of them are awaiting a peaceful settlement of the conflict and are ready to lay down their weapons and return peacefully to their native homes.

The groundless demand of the Abkhazian separatists was rejected by the Security Council that, in its Resolution 896 (1994), recognizes the right of the refugees and displaced persons to return without "any prior conditions."

Hence, the Geneva negotiations were deadlocked on account of the position adopted by the Gudauta grouping. In our view, UN troops should be deployed in Abkhazia immediately and talks on the organized return of refugees continued. Otherwise, hundreds of thousands of desperate people will spontaneously enter the region, which will make it impossible to preserve peace.

The deployment of UN troops in Abkhazia will bring about a change in the atmosphere of anarchy and terror and will force the separatists to fulfill the obligations that are recognized on the basis of the memorandum and communique. All these formations and people who entered the region to take part in the armed conflict should be disarmed and expelled.

In this way, taking into account these views, we consider it possible to return once more to a discussion of both documents but, if the Abkhazian side again wrecks the conclusion of the quadrilateral agreement, of the two

variants of the joint statement proposed by us, one should be enough for the adoption of the decision on the deployment of UN troops by the Security Council.

As regards the assertion by representatives of the Abkhazian side that the decree adopted by the Georgian Parliament on 10 March of this year has ostensibly hindered the continuation of the process of negotiations, this does not correspond to the truth. I would like to explain that Point 2 of this decree states that the Supreme Soviet of the Abkhazian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic in its present composition has been disbanded, without referring to Abkhazia's autonomous statehood as such. We have always conducted negotiations (and will continue to do so) with our opponents from Gudauta in their capacity as a side that is participating de facto in the conflict and not as the legitimate power in Abkhazia. This cannot be otherwise as a body of power, in whose work exactly half (32) of the 64 elected deputies have not been participating for almost two years now and are resident outside its borders, cannot be viewed as being legal. All the more so as, owing to the quotas established by an apartheid electoral law, it is precisely that half of the deputies who have been banished that represents the largest part of the Abkhazian population—300,000 people, whereas the other half can be viewed as representing at best the 160,000 inhabitants left in Abkhazia (30 percent of the prewar population).

There is no time to be lost. Mr. Chairman, what is needed is a swift response. It is now clear to everyone that local hot spots and aggressive separatism are bringing us to all-out war. I hope that you will take into account the arguments outlined above and will do everything to ensure a peaceful end to the conflict in the shortest possible time.

Galiy Refugees To Return in First Stage of Accord

LD0404141394 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1234 GMT 4 Apr 94

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent]

[Text] Moscow April 4 TASS—The Georgian-Abkhazian agreements signed in Moscow on Monday are regarded by diplomats as the initial real attempt to begin political settement of the long-drawn regional conflict. The agreements open an opportunity for the stationing of U.N. peacekeeping forces in the region. Still, an appropriate decision of the U.N. Security Council is required for this, experts believe.

The problem of refugees return will be resolved in stages, ITAR-TASS learned. At initial stages, refugees will return to places of their permanent residence in Galiy District. According to diplomatic circles close to the Georgian delegation, the question of refugees return to Sukhumi and Gagry is not yet raised. This problem is to be solved at future negotiations.

The agreements do not apply to refugees who participated in hostilities against the Abkhazian side. This provision has been included in the document on Abkhazia's insistence, but in a milder form then intially planned, according to the same sources.

Another important point of agreements invisages consultations in Geneva between the Georgian and Abkhazian delegations on a permanent basis.

Crackdown on Draft Dodgers Threatened

LD0104131794 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1047 GMT 1 Apr 94

[Text] Georgia's chief negotiator at the talks with Abkhazia, Jaba Ioseliani, declared upon his return to Tbilisi from the Georgian-Abkhazi line of confrontation Thursday night that it is time "to do away with the situation where Georgian militiamen are in the hiding out in the zone of the conflict." "It is war time now, and those who evade their duty, primarily youth and refugees, must be expelled from Georgia," he stressed.

In his words, "a critical situation has come about" in the Kodor gorge. Georgia's Defence Ministry has "taken no steps to help the local residents, whose squad numbers only 150 men," he said. "The militiamen lack weapons, most of them are untrained soldiers, however, despite that, they have been holding the gorge and have been resisting the nearly 2000-men-strong Abkhazi unit mainly thanks to the mountainous terrain," Ioseliani noted.

On the incident in parliament on March 31 and a rally of advocates of the late ex-president Gamsakhurdia, he declared that "he was shocked by the site." "What rallies can be held and what birthdays of the traitor-president can be celebrated today? All his followers should be isolated, and that will be done to restore order to the country without law, where everyone does as he pleases", Ioseliani emphasized.

Estonia

Government Against Russian Peacekeeping Mandate

LD0404145894 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1319 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] The Estonian Government categorically opposes the granting of a peacekeeping mandate to Russia, Estonian Foreign Minister Juri Luik told Interfax.

He said that only the UN and the CSCE had such a mandate. The granting of this mandate to any individual country is a gross violation of international norms and peacekeeping principles, said Luik.

"Russia has the right to participate in peacekeeping operations within the framework of the UN and does not need any additional mandate," he stated.

He also pointed out that Estonia was against giving individual countries a "carte blanche" and would insist on the observance of this principle.

'No Substantial Changes' Foreseen in Talks

WS0404175694 Tallinn BNS in English 1551 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Excerpt] Tallinn, Apr 04, BNS—The next round of intergovernmental talks between Estonia and Russia is to be held near Moscow on Tuesday [5 April] and Wednesday.

Ago Tiiman, secretary of the Estonian delegation for the talks, in his comments to BNS today said the new round was to deal with the four traditional series of topics—humanitarian, economic, military and border issues—and that no substantial changes were expected when compared to the previous rounds.

Also to be discussed is the issue of taking out nuclear fuel from two reactors located at a Russian naval base in the Estonian small town of Paldiski. It is possible that a technical protocol on the issue will be signed, after which work on taking out the fuel from the two reactors can begin, Tiiman added.

The main obstacle on the way to progress in the talks is the issue of retired Russian army officers, who Russia wants must be granted guarantees that they will get permanent residence permits in Estonia.

Estonia's chief negotiator for the talks, Vaino Reinart, told BNS the main controversy between the two sides in the talks was that Russia wants to fix the categories of persons who will start applying for residence permits in Estonia, whereas Estonia insists that the circle of these persons is not to be established in the agreement. Estonia says the document should just establish the rules under which the retired officers will receive their pensions and pay for medical services in Estonia. [passage omitted]

Protesters Urge No Concessions for Russians

WS0404175894 Tallinn BNS in English 1551 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Tallinn, Apr 04, BNS—Participants in a picket in front of Russia's naval headquarters in Tallinn today urged that the country's delegation for talks with Russia must not go to any political or moral concessions at the upcoming round of talks, due to begin Tuesday [5 April].

The picketers addressed an appeal to the delegation.

The Estonian people have enough strength and patience to wait until the Russian army leaves Estonia. "Go back to your homeland so you will at least be able to watch Ostankino," said Viktor Niitsoo, head of the National Independence Party faction in the Estonian parliament, referring to protests by Russians about Estonia's decision to finish airing the broadcasts of the major Russian TV station in Estonia.

Ulo Ojatalu, a former political prisoner, spoke about the remaining Russian army units' alleged connections with organized crime in Estonia. "Army in a foreign country turns into a den of thieves," he said.

Pickets in protest against the presence of Russian troops in Estonia are held in front of the Russian naval headquarters a few hundred meters from the Estonian parliament and government building each Monday. The Estonian National Independence Party has called on people to continue the weekly pickets until the last Russian soldier has left the country's soil.

Legislative Official Comments

WS0404180294 Tallinn ETA in English 1649 GMT 4 Apr 94

["News Release"]

[Text] Estonia will make no concession to Russia at bilateral negotiations another round of which will open tomorrow, vice chairman of Estonia's parliament said on Monday [4 April].

"Estonia has adopted the Law on Aliens under which we can meet with humanitarian requests, but Estonia will not retreat in main issues," Tunne Kelam said at a traditional Monday afternoon picket before Russian military headquarters in Tallinn.

The Estonian National Independence Party (ERSP) held the picket for the eight time to press for complete and orderly troop pullout by the August 31 deadline. Another issue they press for is that retired Russian military should not be allowed to stay in Estonia.

"We have enough patience and as long as ERSP stands in the ruling coalition, there will be no concessions to Russia," MP Viktor Niitsoo said.

One of the slogans carried was "Latvia's washout is a warning to Estonia" referring to Latvia's consent to allow residence of the retired military.

All Estonian higher officials, including Defence Minister Juri Luik, have said that Estonia would make no concessions.

Prime Minister Mart Laar said on Monday that Estonia could not possibly follow Latvia's Way as Estonian and Latvian laws are different and in order to agree to documents similar to those initialed between Russia and Latvia, Estonia would have to change its legislation which the present government would not do.

Laar also expressed his regret that cooperation between Estonia and Latvia in foreign policy was not good enough.

Investigation of RAHVA HAAL Case Urged

WS0404185694 Tallinn ETA in English 1805 GMT 4 Apr 94

["News Release"]

[Text] Tallinn, April 4—On Monday [4 April] oppositionist factions of the parliament proposed to form a committee to investigate the incident over the second-biggest Estonian daily RAHVA HAAL that has lasted for two weeks already, leading to the situation where the former staff of RAHVA HAAL is denied access to staff rooms.

Rural Party faction and Coalition Party faction bill prescribes formation of a committee, the members of which would be appointed by parliament factions and which would have to clarify how the activities of the board of RAS Rahva Haal, that issues the daily, have limited freedom of press and how much financial damage has been caused to the state by this.

The Centrist faction presented another bill according to which a temporary committee be formed to solve the incident over RAHVA HAAL. The bill proposes to stop the activities of the board of RAHVA HAAL till the end of investigation, abolish contracts with AS Hommikuleht and demand that the latter return money paid to them by the state.

Turmoil over the daily started already in May last year when Estonian Privatization Agency decided to privatize the state-owned newspaper. Head of the Privatization Agency Liia Hanni has admitted later that in the course of the privatization, the result of which is, that two applicants, one of them AS Hommikuleht, to the daily gave the matter to the court, the Agency acted in disagreement with existing laws. At present the matter has reached the Supreme Court and the privatization of the daily has been stopped.

In October last year the board of the daily was changed with majority given to representatives of the government coalition. On March 18, the board adopted a decision to change the statutes of the company, abolishing the institution of editor-in-chief and creating a new institution of publisher-in-chief. Majority of the staff of the paper, in protest to the decision, resigned and decided to join AS RH, formed by the RAHVA HAAL staff last year to participate at the privatization. Editor-in-chief Toomas Leito was dismissed by the board "for loss of trust" and not preserving political balance of the paper. Toomas Leito told ETA that the decisions of the board of RAS Rahva Haal had been of "purely political" nature.

After the staff of RAHVA HAAL had left to AS RH, they started to publish their own paper EESTI SONUMID. RAHVA HAAL was published by RAS Rahva Haal in cooperation with AS HOMMIKULEHT, another Estonian daily.

On Monday, Estonian Ministry of Culture and Education sent a letter to the managing director of AS Ajakirjandusmaja that administers the Tallinn Press Building where most of the biggest newspapers are located, demanding that in 24 hours "outsiders" (meaning the former staff) leave the 5th floor rooms rented to RAS Rahva Haal.

Managing editor of EESTI SONUMID Tiit Lehiste told ETA that from Monday morning EESTI SONUMID staff has not been let into their rooms in the 5th floor, with security guarding the door. The staff was let into the rooms only in pairs to fetch their private things. Also phones were switched off and door locks changed.

Chairman of the board of AS RH Ester Sank told ETA that on Thursday, before the Easter holidays, AS RH had had an agreement with the chairman of the board of RAS Rahva Haal Veiko Jurisson according to which half of the rooms on the 5th floor could be kept by AS RH till April 21. The decision was for some reason changed during the holidays, she said.

Monday evening, managing director of AS Ajakirjandusmaja Juri Kriisemann told ETA that an agreement has been reached with two companies that they would temporarily, for about one month, give up their rooms at the Press Building in favor of AS RH, a decision that has also been accepted by Ministry of Culture and Education.

EESTI SONUMID has sent a letter to Riigikogu [parliament] introducing the situation and asking MPs' position and support in the matter in order the conflict not to reach an incident with tragic results. The letters says that in Estonia "precedent has been created where a civil dispute is solved with force with the support of the executive authorities", calling it "states violence with political colouring".

Estonian Press Complaints Board discussed the problems around RAHVA HAAL/EESTI SONUMID, on Monday, and made a statement saying that the state as the owner of RAHVA HAAL "has not acted in accordance with state of justice norms of the end of 20th

century", and what has taken place in relation to the staff of the paper was to be considered as "limitation of the freedom of press".

RAHVA HAAL is the biggest daily distributed all over Estonia that belongs to the state. Its circulation is 47.6 thousand at week-days and 50 thousand at Saturdays. EESTI SONUMID, according to their own data, have reached almost the same.

RAHVA HAAL Offices Under Guard

WS0404175994 Tallinn BNS in English 1551 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Tallinn, Apr 04, BNS—The government's recent actions that led to a major controversy over the fate of Estonia's second largest daily newspaper may bring about a vote of no confidence in Prime Minister Mart Laar, opposition MP Tiit Made said.

"The State Assembly probably will again have to take for discussion the personal issue of Mart Laar," Made said, mentioning that he had stopped short of calling it an issue of no-confidence.

He said it was the government's attempt to submit the RAHVA HAAL newspaper directly to the government's control that may cause raising the issue in the parliament.

Made and another opposition MP, the Centriat Party's Andra Veidemann, visited RAHVA HAAL's editorial premises in the Press House, Tallinn, today. The premises were taken under guard in the early morning today by a security company hired by RAS Rahva Haal, the state company that still owns the newspaper's trademark, but has lost most of the former staff in a conflict that led to the emergence of EESTI SONUMID, a new title published by RAHVA HAAL's former staff.

The security guards, apparently acting under instructions to prevent possible takeover of the premises by ex-staffers who enjoy massive support by the newspaper's subscribers, today let the former employees in only in groups of two to take their personal belongings from their once places of work.

Made also said he had been surprised to see that RAHVA HAAL's editorial premises were guarded by a security company owned by Agu Kivimae, one of the owners of the company Maag Ltd. that took part in bidding for RAHVA HAAL in the newspaper's privatization last year. The privatization authorities adopted a decision in favor of Maag, but the issue finally ended up in court after protests from Maag's competitors.

Veidemann referred to the possibility of a legal offense, saying the blocking of RAHVA HAAL's premises had taken place without a court order.

She said a court must now decide whether the steps taken by the state company's leadership were legitimate.

The two MPs said they had seen no evidence in support of some recent allegations that the ex-staffers had stolen some of the property belonging to the state-owned newspaper.

Security guards hired by the ex-staffers today called off their agreement and left the premises of the editorial office.

TV Companies To Use Vacated Ostankino Channel

LD0404164494 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1500 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Excerpt] It has been reported by the government press service that the government has decided to satisfy the request from the Estonian EVTV and Reklaamitelevisioon [RETV] television companies to jointly use the television channel vacated by the Russian Ostankino Television and Radio Company. The government has also decided to propose that the Kanal Kaks television company use the whole of the former Russian television channel. According to the government's resolution today, the Ministry of Culture and Education will have to issue temporary licenses for relays of local television programs in the areas around Sillamae and Narva.

EVTV and RETV have decided to split the use of the channel between them for the time being. Mart Siiman, RETV's managing director told the Estonian Telegraph Agency that there is a possibility of a merger in the future. [passage omitted]

Latvia

Ulmanis, Envoy Discuss Possible Clinton Meeting

WS0404155494 Riga LETA in English 1315 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Riga, April 4 (LETA)—At the end of the last week, on invitation from the Latvian President, Guntis Ulmanis, the American Ambassador to Latvia, Ints Silins, visited his residence. According to the President's chancellery, Guntis Ulmanis and Ints Silins discussed the urgent questions of the state relations between the two countries and the possibilities of this year's meetings between the presidents of the United States and the Baltic States.

Parliament To Hold Special Session on Security

WS0404182794 Tallinn BNS in English 1550 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Riga, Apr 04, BNS—The Latvian Saeima (parliament) Presidium decided Monday [4 April] to convene an extraordinary session on April 15 to discuss security policy and the initialed Latvian-Russian agreements on troop withdrawal.

The initiative came from President Guntis Ulmanis and Prime Minister Valdis Birkavs in compliance with the 20th article of the Latvian Constitution.

Under the agreement, Russia operates its radar facility at Skrunda in Latvia for four years and has 18 months to dismantle it. Latvia also guarantees the social protection of retired and serving military personnel on its soil. In return, Russia pledges to get all its troops out of the Baltic country by September.

So far, the deal has met with fierce protest by Latvia's opposition parties and political organizations claiming that the signature and ratification of the agreement would mean legalization of Latvia's occupation by the Soviet Union in 1940.

Support for Estonian Efforts for Troop Pullout

LD0404184894 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1700 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] The Association of Latvian National Forces has sent a letter to Estonian President Lennart Meri and State Assembly Chairman Ivo Nugis.

The letter expresses support for the determination of the Estonian Government and people to achieve complete and unconditional withdrawal of the occupation forces from Estonia within the shortest possible timescale and without any additional conditions being attached by the Russian side. The letter also expresses regret at the Latvian Government's yielding to Russia.

Russian Attache Named To 'Promote Contacts'

WS0404180194 Tallinn BNS in English 1550 GMT 4 Apr 94

[Text] Riga, Apr 04, BNS—The Russian military attache to Latvia, Capt. Vladimir Konyaev, was accredited April 1 at the country's Defense Ministry.

The event was "a substantial step toward normalization of relations between Latvia and Russia," Defense Minister Valdis Pavlovskis told reporters after the accreditation.

Russian Ambassador Aleksandr Rannikh agreed to the minister's words saying that the appointment of Russian military attache to Latvia would promote contacts between both countries' defense structures.

The activities of the newly accredited attache would not be directly connected with the process of Russian troop withdrawal but he is expected to engage the Russian embassy in tackling withdrawal problems.

Lithuania

Official on Poor Foreign Policy Coordination

WS0504092094 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian 26 Mar 94 No. 59 p 4

[Report by Raimonda Rameliene: "Foreign Affairs Committee Complains of Information Shortage"]

[Excerpts] "Work in our committee could be much more flexible, and we could achieve better results if we received more information from persons who construct foreign policy at the President's Office and the Foreign Ministry," stated Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman K. Bobelis at yesterday's press conference in the Seimas [parliament], speaking about the work of its Foreign Affairs Committee. He regretted the failure to execute the Seimas resolution, adopted back in December, authorizing the Foreign Ministry to prepare a foreign policy concept and cooperate with the Foreign Affairs Committee in the closest possible manner. There is also a lack of cooperation with the president's "foreign policy design" office which provides no information at all. K. Bobelis said that "members of the committee do not approve of the isolationist policy conducted by J. Paleckis [presidential foreign policy adviser]. The information deficit evokes unnecessary differences of opinion in the committee.

K. Bobelis said that the committee was currently considering a number of international agreements that would be submitted to the Seimas for ratification. The free trade agreement with the European Union that is being prepared by four ministries is of particular importance. The Foreign Affairs Committee has not yet seen the draft of this document.

According to K. Bobelis, the committee approves of President A. Brazauskas' initiative to set up a Baltic Council of Ministers for cooperation between the Baltics and the Scandinavian countries according to the formula 3 + 5. At the same time, the speaker expressed his regret that even though both the Swedes and the Danes with whom he has talked welcome this idea, they believe that Lithuania is still to immature to undertake such an endeavor. "Everyone looks at us as an inferior and underdeveloped state. I do not know why," admitted K. Bobelis.

The committee chairman reported that Lithuania would shortly open its embassies in China, Japan, and Egypt, and later in Canada. Discussions are continuing on whether an embassy or a consulate should be opened in Turkey. The committee believes that consulates in Kaliningrad and Seinai [Polish border town] must be set up immediately.

Asked whether he had a chance to read the Lithuanian-Polish treaty, K. Bobelis replied that he saw the latest version before taking it to Warsaw. "This document is beneficial for Lithuania and it does not inflict any harm." However, the committee chairman does not

approve of the Foreign Ministry's position not to show the treaty. [passage omitted]

Summing up the work of Lithuanian politicians at international organizations, K. Bobelis said that they should participate both in the EC and UN structures more actively. Moreover, it is necessary to preserve the continuity of political activities, in other words, to create possibilities for members of the delegations to work a longer period of time rather than just one year. In K. Bobelis' opinion, as long as the current situation continues, casual participations in international events will be nothing but trips and a waste of money.

Decision Adopted To Join 1970 Patent Agreement

WS0504091494 Vilnius ELTA in Lithuanian 1238 GMT 31 Mar 94

[Text] The Lithuanian Government has adopted a decision to join the agreement on patent cooperation signed on 19 June 1970 in Washington. As of 11 March this year, there were 67 states that are members of this agreement.

By joining this agreement, Lithuania will have to upgrade its rules of patent preparation and its system of classification and appraisal. From now on, information about patents issued by the Lithuanian State Patent Bureau will be provided to the headquarters of the patent cooperation agreement in Geneva. The State Patent Bureau will work mostly with foreigners who seek protection for their technological innovations on Lithuania's territory.

Opposition Leader Views Litas' Viability

WS0504091994 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian 26 Mar 94 No. 59 p 4

[Report by Raimonda Rameliene: "Litas' Exchange Rate Will Be Set by Lobbyists"]

[Text] Following a longer break, V. Landsbergis, leader of the right-wing opposition, held a press conference at the Seimas [parliament] yesterday. He spoke not about politics but about economic and financial issues which, in his opinion, were almost forgotten by journalists who became fascinated with the recent sensations. The speaker commented on two new laws adopted by the Seimas—on the litas' viability and land which were "accompanied" by statements from the Homeland Union (Lithuanian Conservatives).

According to the professor, the news that international organizations and banks are suspending credits for Lithuania could mean that "the Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party [LDDP] has run into a deadlock." Thus, the perspective, certainly, if it is not changed by some political decisions, looks quite somber: Being deprived of Western credits, the LDDP may resolve to borrow from Moscow. Incidentally, "Russia has indirectly sucked in the large part of all loans received by Lithuania until now, because credits have been extended for enterprises which produce goods for the Russian market and sell them at lower prices." This way, Russia has received additional assistance from the West through Lithuania. "Later on, Russia will probably buy Lithuania for Western credits."

Since the litas' exchange rate will be determined by the government from now on, the gate for corruption will become even wider. The conservatives' statement reads that "seeing the corrupt goals of the LDDP government, such a monetary policy when LDDP leaders will be able to agree on the litas' exchange rate in advance will develop into hard currency speculations among a "group of comrades" by profiting from other businessmen and bankers who are not "comrades" and who will have no access to the party money market or will have to yield to the monopoly of LDDP banks despite their wishes." V. Landsbergis specified that the "litas exchange rate will be set by lobbyists who have access to the president." He also reported that the opposition was planning to appeal the law on land to the Constitutional Court. It would even request to review this issue as a priority (certainly, after the president's decision).

Asked whether the Homeland Union would support the nationalists' proposal to hold elections to the Seimas and self-governments in fall, V. Landsbergis replied: "Homeland Union's definite position is that the Seimas elections should be held simultaneously with the elections to self-governments. There may be different ways to achieve this. Thus far, preparations for a possible referendum have been under way." He also added that in a normal democratic state, such a bankrupt government as the Lithuanian one would itself express the desire for early elections and announce them.

Asked about his expectations concerning the meeting of the three presidents in Palanga, the professor replied that he wished A. Brazauskas would warn the Latvian and Estonian presidents against engaging in any discussions on occupation and annexation, which Russia wants to impose as an issue worthy of attention. "We have Russia's recognition and the condemnation of that annexation. The Lithuanian president has a good chance to remind his colleagues that they could follow Lithuania's agreement with Russia because the situation is absolutely identical," said V. Landsbergis.

'Polonia' Channel Replacing Polish First Program

WS0504091694 Vilnius ELTA in Lithuanian 1238 GMT 31 Mar 94

[Text] As of 4 April 1994, Lithuania will begin airing the "Polonia" station instead of the first Polish television channel. This decision was adopted by the Council of the Baltic Television which relays programs of neighboring countries, because Polish television did not resolve the copyright problem and could not continue broadcasting its first channel, but proposed to transmit the satellite station "Polonia."